

HB 779 -- STATE PURCHASING OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES

SPONSOR: Chappell

This bill specifies that no governmental entity can enter into a contract for electric vehicles or components unless the manufacturer provides a sworn certification consenting to personal jurisdiction by the State over the manufacturer and confirming the absence of forced labor or oppressive child labor in the production process.

The bill defines the terms "electric vehicle", "forced labor", "government entity", "oppressive child labor", and "protected characteristic".

The bill also provides for the following penalty provisions:

(1) Manufacturers or sellers providing false information may be liable for a civil penalty of \$10,000 per false statement or one-half the total price paid by the government entity, whichever is greater.

(2) Governmental entities knowingly violating the information provision may face a fine of \$10,000 per false statement or the total price paid for the vehicles or components, payable to the General Revenue Fund.

(3) State employees violating the provision may personally pay a \$5,000 fine to the Missouri Veterans Commission.

(4) Employees of local governments or political subdivisions violating the provision may personally pay a \$5,000 fine to the school districts in the county of the violation, allocated based on average daily attendance.

(5) Members of statewide or local boards approving purchases violating the provision may personally pay a \$5,000 fine to the Missouri Veterans Commission or school districts, respectively.

Any citizen in Missouri has standing to enforce this section

This bill is the same as HB 2373 (2024).