

LITHIUM-ION BATTERY POLICY AND FIRE SAFETY

KEY REQUESTS FOR CONGRESS

I. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Provide **funding for research**, including:
 - Ensuring that current and future battery-operated systems, devices, and product classes **operate safely**,
 - Improving **fire department response** to battery incidents,
 - Ensuring the safe **disposal** of batteries.
- Work with the fire service to ensure that research into lithium-ion batteries is **targeted toward areas of need**.

II. TRAINING, GEAR, AND EQUIPMENT

- Provide funding to ensure fire departments have the resources (**equipment, training, and personnel**) they need to safely respond to incidents involving lithium-ion batteries, including **adequately funding the AFG and SAFER grant programs**.
- Provide **funding to develop and implement training** for fire service personnel, including the **funding the U.S. Fire Administration**.
- Provide **funding for the development of best practices** for fire department response and operations.

III. EDUCATION, AWARENESS, AND PREVENTION

- Work with fire service stakeholders to **create and/or promote training** on fire department response and operations.
- Work with stakeholders to **develop awareness campaigns** for the public around the risks and proper use of lithium-ion battery devices and systems.
- Provide **funding for the creation of educational materials and classes** for both the public and fire service personnel.

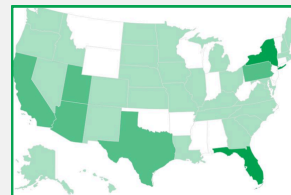
IV. CODES AND STANDARDS

- **Promote holistic use, implementation, and enforcement of up-to-date codes and standards at all levels of government**.
- This includes ensuring both residential and commercial buildings are **protected by fire sprinklers**.
- **Look to existing codes and standards organizations** (e.g. UL, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the International Code Council (ICC)) for work already being done in this space.

V. COMMERCE AND TRADE

- Ensure that all lithium-ion batteries and devices using lithium-ion batteries, including those sold on the secondary market, **meet the required federal and voluntary consensus standards**.
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) should work together to **enforce product safety regulations** for shipments entering the U.S. and **enforce anti counterfeiting laws**.

According to UL Standards & Engagement, battery fires are happening all across the U.S.



Lithium-ion batteries are **increasingly used in consumer devices** to power cell phones, laptops, and micromobility devices, such as e-bikes, scooters, & more.



While lithium-ion batteries are a vital technology and serve many important functions, they also raise some fire safety concerns. These batteries have been known to **overheat, catch fire, and even cause explosions**.



Thermal runaway in a lithium-ion battery cell is an uncontrolled, self-heating state that can lead to a **fire** and even an **explosion**. Thermal runaway can happen when a battery is faulty, from **damage, overcharging, exposure to temperature extremes, or other defects**.