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H.339

Introduced by Representatives Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs
and Yantachka of Charlotte

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Public service; energy efficiency programs; goals and criteria

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to ensure that
energy efficiency programs do not incentivize or allow the purchase, lease, or
installation of new or replacement equipment powered by fossil fuels.

An act relating to energy efficiency programs and equipment powered by
fossil fuels

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 209 is amended to read:

§ 209. JURISDICTION; GENERAL SCOPE

* * *

(f) Goals and criteria; all energy efficiency programs. With respect to all
energy efficiency programs approved under this section, the Commission shall:

(1) Ensure that all retail consumers, regardless of retail electricity, gas,
or heating or process fuel provider, will have an opportunity to participate in

1 and benefit from a comprehensive set of cost-effective energy efficiency
2 programs and initiatives designed to overcome barriers to participation.

3 (2) Require that continued or improved efficiencies be made in the
4 production, delivery, and use of energy efficiency services, including the use
5 of compensation mechanisms for any energy efficiency entity appointed under
6 subdivision (d)(2) of this section that are based upon verified savings in energy
7 usage and demand, and other performance targets specified by the
8 Commission. The linkage between compensation and verified savings in
9 energy usage and demand, and other performance targets, shall be reviewed
10 and adjusted not less than triennially by the Commission.

11 (3) Build on the energy efficiency expertise and capabilities that have
12 developed or may develop in the State.

13 (4) Promote program initiatives and market strategies that address the
14 needs of persons or businesses facing the most significant barriers to
15 participation, including those who do not own their place of residence.

16 (5) Promote and ensure coordinated program delivery, including
17 coordination with low-income weatherization programs, entities that fund and
18 support affordable housing, regional and local efficiency entities within the
19 State, other efficiency programs, and utility programs.

1 (6) Consider innovative approaches to delivering energy efficiency,
2 including strategies to encourage third party financing and customer
3 contributions to the cost of efficiency measures.

4 (7) Provide a reasonably stable multiyear budget and planning cycle in
5 order to promote program improvement, program stability, enhanced access to
6 capital and personnel, improved integration of program designs with the
7 budgets of regulated companies providing energy services, and maturation of
8 programs and delivery resources.

9 (8) Approve programs, measures, and delivery mechanisms that
10 reasonably reflect current and projected market conditions, technological
11 options, and environmental benefits.

12 (9) Provide for delivery of these programs as rapidly as possible, taking
13 into consideration the need for these services, and cost-effective delivery
14 mechanisms.

15 (10) Provide for the independent evaluation of programs delivered under
16 subsection (d) of this section.

17 (11) Require that any entity appointed by the Commission under
18 subsection (d) of this section deliver Commission-approved programs in an
19 effective, efficient, timely, and competent manner and meet standards that are
20 consistent with those in section 218c of this title, the Board's orders in Public

1 Service Board docket 5270, and any relevant Board orders in subsequent
2 energy efficiency proceedings.

3 (12) Require verification, on or before January 1, 2003, and every three
4 years thereafter, by an independent auditor of the reported energy and capacity
5 savings and cost-effectiveness of programs delivered by any entity appointed
6 by the Commission to deliver energy efficiency programs under subdivision
7 (d)(2) of this section.

8 (13) Ensure that any energy efficiency program approved by the
9 Commission shall be reasonable and cost-effective.

10 (14) Consider the impact on retail electric rates and bills of programs
11 delivered under subsection (d) of this section and the impact on fuel prices and
12 bills.

13 (15) Ensure that the energy efficiency programs implemented under this
14 section are designed to make continuous and proportional progress toward
15 attaining the overall State building efficiency goals established by 10 V.S.A.
16 § 581, by promoting all forms of energy end-use efficiency and comprehensive
17 sustainable building design.

18 (16) Ensure that the energy efficiency programs implemented under this
19 section are designed not to incentivize or allow the purchase, lease, or
20 installation of new or replacement equipment or machinery that is powered by
21 or consumes fossil fuels.

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Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

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This act shall take effect on January 1, 2020.