

* * * Fuel Tax; Low Income Home Weatherization Assistance * * *

Sec. 41. 33 V.S.A. § 2502 is amended to read:

§ 2502. HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

[placeholder]

(b)(1) The State program shall provide an enhanced weatherization assistance amount exceeding the federal per unit limit allowing amounts up to an average of ~~\$8,000.00~~ \$8,500.00 per unit allocated on a cost-effective basis. ~~The allowable average per unit may be adjusted to account for the lower cost per unit of multi-family buildings.~~ In units where costs exceed the allowable average by more than 25 percent, prior approval of the Director of the State Economic Opportunity Office shall be required before work commences. This amount shall be adjusted annually by increasing the last year's amount by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for the previous year.

~~(c) The Secretary of Human Services shall by rule establish rent stabilization agreements and provisions to recapture amounts expended for weatherization of a rental unit which exceed the amount of energy cost reductions projected to be obtained by eligible tenants of the unit. The time periods established for rent stabilization and recapture shall be set taking into account the size of benefits received by tenants and landlords as well as the effect on program participation.~~

Commented [PS1]: The statute indexes this to the Consumer Price Index. This is the current job cost average, based on inflation. We propose updating it in statute so that the base year is always the year the fuel tax is reauthorized.

Commented [PS2]: More accurately aligns with program and accounts for differences in actual costs of weatherization.

~~Funds recaptured under this section shall be deposited into the Home~~

~~Weatherization Assistance Fund established under section 2501 of this title.~~

Commented [PS3]: No rule needed. Addressed in program policy that is reviewed by broad stakeholder Weatherization Policy Advisory Council

Sec. 42. 33 V.S.A. § 2503 is amended to read:

§ 2503. FUEL TAX

(a)(1) There is imposed a tax on the retail sale of heating oil, propane, kerosene, and other dyed diesel fuel delivered ~~to a residence or business in~~ Vermont, at the rate of \$0.02 per gallon, ~~except that deliveries to any agency, authority, political subdivision, or instrumentality of the United States, the State of~~ Vermont, or a municipality are exempt from this tax.

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(d) ~~No tax under this section shall be imposed for any month ending after~~ June 30, 2019. [Repealed.]