

1 S.109

2 Senator Perchlik moves that the bill be amended as follows:

3 First: In Sec. 6, appropriations, by striking it out in its entirety and inserting  
4 in lieu the following:

5 Sec. 6. APPROPRIATIONS

6 In fiscal year 2022, there is appropriated from the General Fund  
7 \$35,000,000.00 as follows:

8 (1) \$4,000,000.00 to the Department for Children and Families, Office  
9 of Economic Opportunity, Home Weatherization Assistance Program to be  
10 used in fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023. Up to \$150,000.00 of these  
11 funds may be used for vermiculite remediation and home repair as part of  
12 home weatherization.

13 (2) \$4,000,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and General Services  
14 to provide low-cost financing to municipalities seeking to leverage energy  
15 savings opportunities.

16 (3) \$8,000,000.00 to the Agency of Administration to grant to the  
17 Vermont Housing Finance Agency for financial support of housing  
18 weatherization statewide.

19 (4) \$1,000,000.00 to the Department of Public Service to grant to  
20 Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of developing, in collaboration with the  
21 Department, interested distribution utilities, and other stakeholders, a tariffed

1 on-bill to-the-meter financing program to be financed by the Vermont Housing  
2 Finance Agency.

3 (5) \$5,000,000.00 to the Department of Public Service to grant to the  
4 Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of weatherization incentives. These funds  
5 shall be deposited in the Electric Efficiency Fund established under 30 V.S.A.  
6 Sec. 209(d)(3) and be available for use by Efficiency Vermont through  
7 December 31, 2023.

8 (6) \$2,000,000 to the Department of Public Service to grant to  
9 Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of workforce development initiatives and  
10 to support the expansion of Neighborworks of Western Vermont’s Heat Squad  
11 program. \$1,000,000.00 shall go to Neighborworks of Western Vermont and  
12 \$1,000,000.00 shall be deposited in the Electric Efficiency Fund established  
13 under 30 V.S.A. Sec. 209(d)(3) and be available for use by Efficiency Vermont  
14 through December 31, 2023.

15 (7) \$8,000,000.00 to the Energy Savings Fund, established in 30 V.S.A.  
16 § 35, to be used on the Affordable Community-Scale Renewable Energy  
17 Program, which shall support the creation of renewable energy projects for  
18 low-income Vermonters.

19 (8) \$3,000,000,.00 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to  
20 fund the programs established in Sec. 4a of this act.

21 Second: By adding a Sec. 4a to read:

1       Sec. 4a. ADVANCED WOOD HEAT INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

2           (a) The Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with  
3       the Division of Air Quality in the Department of Environmental Conservation,  
4       and the Department of Public Service shall design incentive programs for the  
5       installation of advanced wood heating systems and development of the local  
6       advanced wood heating market with the \$3,000,000.00 appropriated in Sec. 6  
7       of this act. The programs, at a minimum, shall include:

8           (1) a stove change-out program for households at or below 120 percent  
9       of the State median household income;

10          (2) a competitive grant program for nonprofit public serving institutions,  
11       including schools, hospitals, colleges, libraries, and municipal buildings to  
12       install advanced wood heating systems; and

13          (3) a competitive grant program for advanced wood heating businesses  
14       for investments in advanced wood heating fuel supply infrastructure.

15          (b) These programs shall require compliance with the air quality rules  
16       established by the Division of Air Quality.

17          (c) Funds may be used for the purchase and maintenance of particulate  
18       emission monitoring equipment.

19          (d) Not more than 10 percent total may be used on program administration.

20       Up to five percent may be used on program design and promotion.

1        Third: By striking out Sec. 7, 10 V.S.A. § 621, in its entirety and inserting  
2 in lieu thereof the following:

3        Sec. 7. 10 V.S.A. § 621 is amended to read:

4        § 621. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES

5        The Agency shall have all of the powers necessary and convenient to carry  
6 out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter, including those  
7 general powers provided a business corporation by 11A V.S.A. § 3.02 and  
8 those general powers provided a nonprofit corporation by 11B V.S.A. § 3.02  
9 and including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the power to:

10     \* \* \*

11        (22) ~~issue~~ Issue bonds, notes, and other obligations secured by the  
12 property transfer tax revenues transferred to the Agency pursuant to 32 V.S.A.  
13 § 9610(d).

14        (23) Develop a program to finance and promote housing weatherization  
15 using funds appropriated by the State; funds generated through issuing bonds,  
16 notes, and other obligations of the Agency; and funds from other sources  
17 obtained through grants or other arrangements. The program shall give  
18 priority to programs benefiting persons and families at or below 120 percent of  
19 the State median household income with high energy burdens. Funds  
20 appropriated by the State shall benefit households at or below 120 percent of  
21 the State median household income. Not more than 10 percent total may be

1 used on program administration. Up to five percent may be used on program  
2 design, and promotion.

3 (24) provide up to \$3,500,000.00 of financing using monies  
4 appropriated by the General Assembly for an on-bill tariffed to-the-meter  
5 energy efficiency program. The program may also be financed with funds  
6 generated through issuing bonds, notes, and other obligations of the Agency  
7 and with funds from other sources obtained through grants or other  
8 arrangements. Funds appropriated by the State shall benefit households at or  
9 below 120 percent of the State median household income. Any unused  
10 appropriated funds shall revert to the General Fund if not used within three  
11 years.

12 (25) Report to the General Assembly on the programs created under  
13 subdivisions (23) and (24) of this section, including the loan applications  
14 received and the amount, the loans issued and their amounts, the loans  
15 defaulted on and their amounts, the average loan amount and term, the  
16 estimated energy savings and money savings to be achieving by the projects  
17 under the programs, the average project cost, the average energy burden of  
18 borrowers, and the average income of borrowers.