

# Funding Sources for Training the Weatherization Workforce

Senate Natural Resources and Energy

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# Outline of today's talk

Part 1: Goals of S.284

Part 2: Constraints around ARPA Funding

Part 3: Constraints around IIJA Funding



# Part 1: Goals stated in S.284

Weatherize 120,000 housing units by 2031 and create the Weatherization Working Group to make recommendations on funding sources and create the necessary workforce.



# Goals stated in S.284

Sec. 1. It shall be the goals of the State:

(1) To improve substantially the energy fitness of at least 120,000 housing units and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 0.15 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2031...

Sec. 2. Weatherization Working Group shall make recommendations:

(1) near-term and long-term funding sources;

(2) the creation of a:

(A) workforce to provide energy and financial counseling and coaching services;

(B) workforce to provide weatherization and energy services;



# Part 2: Constraints around ARPA Funding

State Fiscal Recovery funds from the American Rescue Plan Act *perhaps* can be used for weatherization training.



# ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds: ~\$1 billion

- State Fiscal Recovery Funds can be used to respond to the public health impacts and negative economic impacts of the pandemic
  - Specifically, SFR funds can support households who were negatively affected by the pandemic
- Act 74 (June 2021) appropriated \$1 million to weatherization training
  - As of now, the Agency of Administration considers the use of those funds to be “moderate risk” and continues to evaluate whether SFR funds can be used for weatherization training. The AOA is still assessing program design as part of their SFR process.



# Part 3: Constraints around IIJA Funding

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act became law in November 2021 and contains funds for training individuals to do energy audits



# Energy Auditor Training Grant Program, Infrastructure Act Guidebook, p.215

- Description: To provide grants to eligible States to **train individuals to conduct energy audits or surveys** of commercial and residential buildings to build the clean energy workforce, save customers money on their energy bills, and reduce pollution from building energy use
  - \$40 million for the U.S.; grant applications open 2022:Q2
- Perhaps helpful as an early step in the weatherization process
- The Infrastructure Act Guidebook is available at the following url:
  - [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/BUILDING-A-BETTERAMERICA\\_FINAL.pdf?utm\\_campaign=Newsletters&utm\\_source=sendgrid&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/BUILDING-A-BETTERAMERICA_FINAL.pdf?utm_campaign=Newsletters&utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email)





# Infrastructure Act Guidebook, continued

- For non-profit partnerships (not states),
  - Career Skills Training (p.225)
- For Institutions of Higher Learning (not states),
  - Building, Training, and Assessment Centers (p. 227)



# Thank you

