

1 S.317

2 Introduced by Senators Heffernan and Williams

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Public service; health; weatherization; funding

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to continue the

7 tax on the purchase of fossil fuels to fund the Home Weatherization Assistance

8 Program. It would expand the eligibility criteria to apply for Home

9 Weatherization Assistance Program grants. It also proposes to accelerate and

10 increase administrative and financial support of weatherization trade workforce

11 recruitment and training programs funded through the Home Weatherization

12 Assistance Program.

13 An act relating to weatherization funding and weatherization workforce
14 recruitment

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

16 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

17 The General Assembly finds that:

1 citizens, the environment, and the economy. Accelerated weatherization
2 efforts will:

3 (A) provide fuel cost savings and savings for the Low Income Home
4 Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Home Heating Fuel Assistance
5 Program; and

9 (2) Weatherization is a means for homeowners to protect the
10 environment and diminish the outflow of money to the fossil fuel industry.

15 Sec. 2. 33 V.S.A. § 2502 is amended to read:

16 § 2502. HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

17 * * *

18 (b) In addition, the Director shall supplement or supplant any federal
19 program with the State Home Weatherization Assistance Program.

4 * * *

5 (C) Establishing Program eligibility levels at ~~80~~ 125 percent of the
6 area median income or ~~80~~ 125 percent of the State median income, whichever
7 is higher. Subject to the priority under section 2608 of this title given to
8 participants in the Home Heating Fuel Assistance Program, the State program
9 shall, when weighing factors to assign priority to buildings or units eligible for
10 weatherization assistance, assign the greatest weight to those buildings and
11 units that require the highest energy usage.

12 * * *

15 § 2503. FUEL TAX

16 (a)(1) There is imposed a tax on the retail sale of heating oil, propane,

17 kerosene, and other dyed diesel fuel delivered in Vermont, at the rate of \$0.02

18 per gallon, until June 30, 2027.

19 (2) There is imposed a gross receipts tax of 0.75 percent on the retail
20 sale of natural gas and coal

3 * * *

4 (d) No tax under this section shall be imposed for any month ending after
5 June 30, 2029.

6 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on passage.