

Rep. Kate Logan: Budget Testimony to House Committee on Appropriations

RE: Healthy Homes Initiative (HE budget)

- Request: \$2 million in base funding for the Healthy Homes Initiative; founded with ARPA funding, continued with \$4 million of base funding that will be fully expended in the current fiscal year
- Serves “low and moderate income” homeowners who have critical water quality needs on their properties: wastewater systems, drinking water systems, and stormwater management projects — average cost of the project is \$30,000
- I say low and moderate income households, but the program only serves low income households — for all but households with 1 person, \$65,000 a year is considered low income (and in Chittenden County, all household sizes are low income at \$65,000 or below)
- Two examples: household whose well could not provide enough water for children to bathe; older couple who had to leave the water running in order for the pipes not to freeze, but one of the couple had dementia and kept turning the water off, leading the pipes to freeze repeatedly
- The program has served over 500 households, and there are around 450 eligible households in queue, with 150 applicants in the last quarter of 2025
- None of these remaining or ongoing households will be served if we do not continue to provide base funding for this successful program that delivers strong ROI