



Offered by:  
SEN. LOPES, 6<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **356**                      File No. 142                      Cal. No. 136

**"AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFIT GRANT PROGRAM FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING."**

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1            Strike section 1 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

2            "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than September  
3            1, 2021, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall,  
4            using available federal or other funds, establish an energy efficiency  
5            retrofit grant program. The Commissioner of Energy and  
6            Environmental Protection may receive funds from the federal  
7            government, corporations, associations or individuals to fund the grant  
8            program. Such program shall award grants to fund the installation of  
9            energy efficient upgrades to (1) affordable housing, as defined in section  
10           8-39a of the general statutes, including, but not limited to, property of a  
11           housing authority, as defined in section 8-39 of the general statutes, or  
12           (2) other dwelling units owned by a landlord, as defined in section 47a-  
13           1 of the general statutes, at the discretion of the commissioner. Such  
14           upgrades shall include energy efficiency and weatherization measures  
15           and may include, but need not be limited to, the installation of rooftop  
16           solar photovoltaic panels, energy storage systems located on the  
17           customer's premises, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, heat  
18           pumps and balanced ventilation, and the mitigation of health and safety  
19           hazards including, but not limited to, gas leaks, mold, vermiculite and  
20           asbestos, lead and radon, to the extent such hazards impede the  
21           installation of energy efficiency upgrades and weatherization measures.

22 (b) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall  
23 develop standards for the energy efficiency retrofit grant program. The  
24 department may consult with other state agencies, quasi-public  
25 agencies and housing authorities, and shall consider the energy  
26 performance standards developed pursuant to section 16a-38 of the  
27 general statutes, in establishing the standards for the grant program.  
28 The department may coordinate with other state agencies, quasi-public  
29 agencies and housing authorities to implement the grant program in  
30 conjunction with other existing state programs that have the purpose of  
31 installing or otherwise assisting state residents to obtain the upgrades  
32 set forth in subsection (a) of this section. The department may retain  
33 consultants with expertise in energy efficiency retrofit programs or  
34 distributed energy programs, or both, for assistance with its  
35 development or administration of the grant program.

36 (c) A grant applicant shall submit an application to the Commissioner  
37 of Energy and Environmental Protection on forms prescribed by the  
38 commissioner, which shall include, but not be limited to: (1) A  
39 description of the proposed project; (2) an explanation of the expected  
40 benefits of the project in relation to the purposes of this section; (3)  
41 information concerning the financial and technical capacity of the  
42 applicant to undertake the proposed project; (4) a project budget; and  
43 (5) any other information deemed necessary by the commissioner. The  
44 commissioner shall prioritize grants to applicants who (A) use the  
45 services of local contractors who pay the prevailing wage and who make  
46 good faith efforts to hire, or cause to be hired, available and qualified  
47 minority business enterprises, as defined in section 4a-60g of the general  
48 statutes, and (B) upgrade affordable housing or dwelling units for  
49 households that include an individual who qualifies for utility financial  
50 hardship programs or who receives means-tested assistance  
51 administered by the state or federal government.

52 (d) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the  
53 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall submit a  
54 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
55 statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly

56 having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology and  
57 housing. Such report shall include the standards developed pursuant to  
58 subsection (b) of this section, an analysis of the scope of residences able  
59 to be served by the grant program and proposed goals for the annual  
60 percentage of affordable housing units that can be served by the  
61 program."

62 Strike sections 2 and 3 in their entirety and renumber the remaining  
63 sections and internal references accordingly

64 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
65 internal references accordingly:

66 "Sec. 501. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 16-244z of the  
67 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
68 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

69 (2) On and after January 1, 2022, each electric distribution company  
70 shall offer the following options to residential customers for the  
71 purchase of products generated from a Class I renewable energy source  
72 that is located on a customer's own premises and has a nameplate  
73 capacity rating of twenty-five kilowatts or less for a term not to exceed  
74 twenty years: (A) A tariff for the purchase of all energy and renewable  
75 energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis; and (B) a tariff for  
76 the purchase of any energy produced and not consumed in the period  
77 of time established by the authority pursuant to subparagraph (C) of  
78 subdivision (1) of this subsection and all renewable energy certificates  
79 generated by such facility on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis. A  
80 residential customer shall select either option authorized pursuant to  
81 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision, consistent with the  
82 requirements of this section. Such generation projects shall be sized so  
83 as not to exceed the load at the customer's individual electric meter or,  
84 in the case of a multifamily dwelling that qualifies under this subsection,  
85 the load of the premises, from the electric distribution company  
86 providing service to such customer, as determined by such electric  
87 distribution company. For purposes of this section, "residential

88 customer" means a customer of a single-family dwelling, [or] a  
 89 multifamily dwelling consisting of two to four units, or a multifamily  
 90 dwelling consisting of five or more units, provided in the case of a  
 91 multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, (i) not less than  
 92 sixty per cent of the units of the multifamily dwelling are occupied by  
 93 persons and families with income that is not more than sixty per cent of  
 94 the area median income for the municipality in which it is located, as  
 95 determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban  
 96 Development, or (ii) such multifamily dwelling is determined to be  
 97 affordable housing by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority in  
 98 consultation with the Department of Energy and Environmental  
 99 Protection, Department of Housing, Connecticut Green Bank,  
 100 Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and United States Department  
 101 of Housing and Urban Development. In the case of a multifamily  
 102 dwelling consisting of five or more units, a generation project shall only  
 103 qualify under this subsection if: (I) Each of the dwelling units receives  
 104 an appropriate share of the benefits from the generation project, and (II)  
 105 no greater than an appropriate share of the benefits from the generation  
 106 project is used to offset common area usage. The Public Utilities  
 107 Regulatory Authority shall initiate an uncontested proceeding to  
 108 implement the distribution of the benefits from the generation project  
 109 pursuant to this section."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	16-244z(b)(2)