



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. **8889**



Offered by:
SEN. LOPES, 6th 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."**

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 establish an energy efficiency retrofit grant program. Such program
5 shall award grants to fund the installation of energy efficient upgrades
6 to affordable housing, as defined in section 8-39a of the general statutes,
7 including, but not limited to, property of a housing authority, as defined
8 in section 8-39 of the general statutes. Such upgrades shall include
9 energy efficiency and weatherization measures and may include, but
10 need not be limited to, the installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic
11 panels, energy storage systems located on the customer's premises,
12 electric vehicle charging infrastructure, heat pumps and balanced
13 ventilation, and the mitigation of health and safety hazards including,
14 but not limited to, gas leaks, mold, vermiculite and asbestos, lead and
15 radon, to the extent such hazards impede the installation of energy
16 efficiency upgrades and weatherization measures.

17 (b) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall

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

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

47 (d) The energy efficiency retrofit grant program, and any associated
48 consultant costs pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, shall be
49 funded by the fee collected pursuant to section 29-263 of the general
50 statutes, as amended by this act.

51 (e) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the
52 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall submit a
53 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
54 statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
55 having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology and
56 housing. Such report shall include the standards developed pursuant to
57 subsection (b) of this section, an analysis of the scope of residences able
58 to be served by the grant program as funded by the fee collected
59 pursuant to section 2 of this act, and proposed goals for the annual
60 percentage of affordable housing units that can be served by the
61 program."

62 In line 105, strike the third "the"

63 In line 106, strike "appropriation to the Department of Housing" and
64 insert "a nonlapsing account within the Department of Energy and
65 Environmental Protection" in lieu thereof

66 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
67 internal references accordingly:

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

71 (2) On and after January 1, 2022, each electric distribution company
72 shall offer the following options to residential customers for the
73 purchase of products generated from a Class I renewable energy source
74 that is located on a customer's own premises and has a nameplate
75 capacity rating of twenty-five kilowatts or less for a term not to exceed
76 twenty years: (A) A tariff for the purchase of all energy and renewable
77 energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis; and (B) a tariff for
78 the purchase of any energy produced and not consumed in the period
79 of time established by the authority pursuant to subparagraph (C) of
80 subdivision (1) of this subsection and all renewable energy certificates
81 generated by such facility on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis. A
82 residential customer shall select either option authorized pursuant to

83 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision, consistent with the
84 requirements of this section. Such generation projects shall be sized so
85 as not to exceed the load at the customer's individual electric meter or,
86 in the case of a multifamily dwelling that qualifies under this subsection,
87 the load of the premises, from the electric distribution company
88 providing service to such customer, as determined by such electric
89 distribution company. For purposes of this section, "residential
90 customer" means a customer of a single-family dwelling, [or] a
91 multifamily dwelling consisting of two to four units, or a multifamily
92 dwelling consisting of five or more units, provided in the case of a
93 multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, (i) not less than
94 sixty per cent of the units of the multifamily dwelling are occupied by
95 persons and families with income that is not more than sixty per cent of
96 the area median income for the municipality in which it is located, as
97 determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban
98 Development, or (ii) such multifamily dwelling is determined to be
99 affordable housing by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority in
100 consultation with the Department of Energy and Environmental
101 Protection, Department of Housing, Connecticut Green Bank,
102 Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and United States Department
103 of Housing and Urban Development. In the case of a multifamily
104 dwelling consisting of five or more units, a generation project shall only
105 qualify under this subsection if: (I) Each customer's individual electric
106 meter counted toward the load of the premises receives the benefits
107 from the generation project, and (II) no greater than a pro rata share of
108 the benefits from the generation project is used to offset common area
109 usage."

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)