



Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

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Summary Senate Bill 156, P.N. 126

Prime Sponsor: Senator Tomlinson

Short Title

The Home Energy Assistance Act

Overview

- Authorizes the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) to provide matching home energy assistance funding to home energy providers that maintain hardship funds. Home energy providers shall distribute funding to qualified individuals earning between 151% and 200% of federal income poverty guidelines.
- DPW shall only distribute matching funds when the statewide average daily temperature between November and March is 10% colder than the statewide average daily temperature for the previous ten years during the same months. The amount of matching funds shall be based upon the amount contributed to the home energy provider's hardship fund by stockholders, employees and ratepayers of the home energy provider.
- Home energy providers shall apply for matching funds between January 1 and February 1 of each year that qualifies for assistance. DPW shall distribute matching funds no later than April 1. DPW may promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the administration of the act.

Effective Date

- The act takes effect in 60 days