

2529--A

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

January 26, 2015

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance -- recommitted to the Committee on Finance in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to authorizing the New York state energy research and development authority to develop a temporary middle income home energy assistance program; making an appropriation therefor and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Section 1854 of the public authorities law is amended by
2 adding a new subdivision 9 to read as follows:
3 9. TEMPORARY MIDDLE INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. (A) THE
4 AUTHORITY IS AUTHORIZED, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
5 AND FINANCE, TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, ADMINISTER AND OPERATE A PLAN, AND
6 HOLD FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SUCH PLAN, TO MAKE AVAILABLE ONE-TIME SUPPLE-
7 MENTING GRANTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS TO
8 OBTAIN HOME HEATING FUEL.
9 (B) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE TERM "HOME HEATING FUEL"
10 SHALL MEAN FUEL OIL, COAL, WOOD, PROPANE, NATURAL GAS, ELECTRICITY,
11 STEAM, KEROSENE AND ANY OTHER FUEL WHEN USED FOR RESIDENTIAL HEATING
12 PURPOSES.
13 (C) THE AUTHORITY IS REQUIRED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLAN ESTABLISHED
14 IN PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TEMPORARY
15 MIDDLE INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND TO ASSIST ELIGIBLE
16 HOUSEHOLDS TO OBTAIN MIDDLE INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE.
17 (D) PERSONS WHO QUALIFY FOR MIDDLE INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE IN
18 ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARDS PROMULGATED BY THE AUTHORITY, SHALL BE CERTI-
19 FIED AS ELIGIBLE FOR AND ENTITLED TO RECEIVE SUCH HOME ENERGY ASSIST-

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 ANCE. NO PERSON, HOWEVER, SHALL BE CERTIFIED AS ELIGIBLE FOR AND ENTI-
2 TLED TO RECEIVE SUCH HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE IF NO STATE FUNDS ARE
3 AVAILABLE FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

4 (E) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY INCONSISTENT PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY,
5 THE AMOUNT OF ANY HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS OR ALLOWANCES PROVIDED
6 TO AN ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLD UNDER SUCH PLAN SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED INCOME
7 OR RESOURCES OF SUCH HOUSEHOLDS, OR OF ANY MEMBER THEREOF, FOR ANY
8 PURPOSE UNDER ANY STATE LAW.

9 S 2. The sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or so much thereof
10 as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the New York state energy
11 research and development authority out of any moneys in the state treas-
12 ury in the general fund to the credit of the state purposes fund, not
13 otherwise appropriated, and made immediately available, for the purpose
14 of supporting the temporary middle income home energy assistance
15 program. Such moneys shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the
16 comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the New York state
17 energy research and development authority in the manner prescribed by
18 law.

19 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
20 deemed repealed April 1, 2018.