

2529

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 26, 2015

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Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

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

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

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

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

16 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be  
17 deemed repealed April 1, 2017.