

STATE OF NEW YORK

10150

IN ASSEMBLY

March 12, 2020

Introduced by M. of A. CYMBROWITZ -- read once and referred to the Committee on Housing

AN ACT to amend the private housing finance law, in relation to establishing the sustainable affordable housing incentive program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The private housing finance law is amended by adding a new article 31 to read as follows:

ARTICLE XXXI

SUSTAINABLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Section 1280. Statement of legislative findings and purpose.

1281. Definitions.

1282. Sustainable affordable housing incentive program.

§ 1280. Statement of legislative findings and purpose. The legislature finds and declares that climate change is having a significant impact upon our environment, health, and safety and it is necessary to implement programs and policies that immediately reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The legislature further finds that residential housing is a source for such emissions and we can only address climate change in a meaningful manner if we change our practices and behaviors as they relate to the construction of and improvements to such housing, such as the use of environmentally-sensitive design and the construction practices and materials; the installation of energy efficient products; and access to renewable energy sources. Establishing a new program to encourage and publicly subsidize more environmentally-friendly practices and materials will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from multi-unit housing throughout New York state and help address climate change for future generations.

§ 1281. Definitions. For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. "Corporation" shall mean the housing trust fund corporation established in section forty-five-a of this chapter.

2. "Sustainable affordable housing activities" shall mean activities by an eligible applicant for a specific work or series of works for the

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

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1 creation, preservation or improvement of affordable housing which will
2 reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the use of design, construction,
3 materials and products, and access to renewable energy sources that
4 exceed a greenhouse gas emissions baseline for such housing, as deter-
5 mined by the corporation in consultation with the New York state energy
6 research and development corporation.

7 3. "Eligible applicant" shall mean a not-for-profit corporation or
8 charitable organization, or a wholly-owned subsidiary of such a corpo-
9 ration or organization, or a private for-profit developer such as a
10 person, corporation, partnership or limited liability company.

11 4. "Affordable residential development" shall mean a multiple family
12 dwelling which is subject to a regulatory agreement with a local, state,
13 or federal government entity.

14 § 1282. Sustainable affordable housing incentive program. 1. Within
15 amounts appropriated or otherwise available therefor, the corporation
16 shall develop and administer a sustainable affordable housing incentive
17 program which shall provide assistance in the form of payments, grants
18 and loans for reasonable and necessary expenses to an eligible applicant
19 for sustainable housing activities.

20 2. The corporation shall develop procedures, criteria and requirements
21 related to the application and award of projects pursuant to this
22 section which shall include: eligibility, market demand, feasibility
23 and funding criteria; the funding determination process; supervision and
24 evaluation of contracting applicants; reporting, budgeting and record-
25 keeping requirements; provisions for modification and termination of
26 contracts; and such other matters not inconsistent with the purposes and
27 provisions of this article as the corporation shall deem necessary or
28 appropriate.

29 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.