



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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No. 295

H.P. 204

House of Representatives, February 7, 2013

**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide
Weatherization Rebates for Veterans and Persons Eligible for Social
Security**

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative RUSSELL of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, CHAPMAN of Brooksville,
HOBBINS of Saco.

1 A. All funds deposited in the fund must be administered by the trust to reduce
2 heating fuel consumption consistent with the purpose and targets of the trust and the
3 triennial plan to achieve the following goal:

4 (1) By 2030, to provide cost-effective energy efficiency and weatherization
5 measures to substantially all homes and businesses whose owners wish to
6 participate in programs established by the trust under this section.

7 B. Funds from the fund may be used only for programs that provide cost-effective
8 energy efficiency and weatherization measures for the benefit of heating fuel
9 customers or to efficiency service providers serving those customers and in
10 accordance with the following.

11 (1) Program categories must include low-income, single-family and 2-family
12 residential units, multifamily residential units, small business, commercial and
13 institutional and such other categories as the trust determines appropriate;

14 (2) Within program categories, the trust may differentiate between programs for
15 new construction and existing buildings; and

16 (3) Cost-effective energy efficiency measures must include measures that
17 improve the energy efficiency of energy-using systems, such as heating and
18 cooling systems, through system upgrades or conversions, including conversions
19 to energy-efficient systems that rely on renewable energy sources or systems that
20 rely on effective energy efficiency technologies.

21 C. Program designs approved by the trust must contain:

22 (1) Incentives to consumers to purchase and install cost-effective efficiency and
23 weatherization products and services identified by a certified energy auditor,
24 except in the case of programs to deliver education, training or certifications;

25 (2) A schedule of customer copayments and loan options for prescribed products
26 and services. Programs for low-income consumers may provide exemptions from
27 the copayment and schedule;

28 (3) A plan for integrating delivery of heating fuel efficiency and weatherization
29 measures with electric efficiency measures; and

30 (4) A system for the equitable allocation of costs among the contributing funds or
31 subaccounts administered by the trust when more than one efficiency opportunity
32 is identified.

33 D. Other eligible program measures may include, but are not limited to, training or
34 certification of energy auditors, insulation installers, mechanical heating system
35 installers and maintenance technicians and building energy inspectors.

36 **Sec. B-2. 35-A MRSA §10119, sub-§2-A** is enacted to read:

37 **2-A. Weatherization rebate program for certain persons.** The trust by rule shall
38 establish a program that provides rebates to persons eligible under this subsection for
39 costs incurred when installing cost-effective weatherization measures. To be eligible for
40 a rebate under this subsection, a person must:

