

SB 73-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-1059

05/10

SENATE BILL **73-FN-A**

AN ACT establishing a green building standards initiative as part of the low or moderate income housing loan program and making an appropriation therefor; and establishing a commission to study green housing and utility source options.

SPONSORS: Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. Cavanaugh, Dist 16; Rep. McWilliams, Merr. 27

COMMITTEE: Finance

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a green building standards initiative as part of the low or moderate income housing loan program and makes a \$1 appropriation for this purpose. The bill also establishes a commission to study green housing and utility source options.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT establishing a green building standards initiative as part of the low or moderate income housing loan program and making an appropriation therefor; and establishing a commission to study green housing and utility source options.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority; Low and Moderate Income Housing
2 Loan Program; Green Building Standards Rehabilitation Initiative. Amend RSA 204-C by inserting
3 after section 65 the following new section:

4 204-C:65-a Green Building Standards Rehabilitation Initiative. The second priority of the low
5 and moderate income housing loan program shall be to assist low and moderate income persons to
6 complete rehabilitation and improvement projects designed to increase the energy efficiency of their
7 homes. Qualifying projects shall be based on green building standards, designed to minimize
8 environmental impacts, reduce waste, and promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable
9 energy sources. Qualifying projects may include the installation of solar panels and the replacement
10 of lead pipes.

11 2 Appropriation; Green Building Standards Rehabilitation Initiative. The sum of \$1 for the
12 fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 is hereby appropriated to the New Hampshire housing finance
13 authority for the purpose of funding the green building standards rehabilitation initiative. The
14 governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not
15 otherwise appropriated.

16 3 New Section; New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority; Commission to Study Green
17 Housing and Utility Source Options. Amend RSA 204-C by inserting after section 70 the following
18 new section:

19 204-C:70-a Commission Established. There is established a commission to study green housing
20 and utility source options.

21 I. The members of the commission shall be as follows:

22 (a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

23 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house
24 of representatives.

25 (c) One representative of the New Hampshire housing finance authority, appointed by
26 that entity.

27 (d) One representative of a utility company, jointly appointed by the senate president
28 and the speaker of the house of representatives.

SB 73-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED
- Page 2 -

1 (e) Two members appointed by the president of the New Hampshire Building Trades,
2 one of whom shall work for a utility company.

3 (f) Two public members, one of whom shall be a tenant and one of whom shall be a
4 homeowner, appointed by the executive director of Rights and Democracy New Hampshire.

5 (g) One representative of New Hampshire Legal Assistance, appointed by that
6 organization.

7 (h) One representative of a community action program that administers a
8 weatherization program, appointed by the New Hampshire Community Action Partnership.

9 II. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when
10 attending to the duties of the commission.

11 III. The commission shall study the development and expansion of green housing initiatives
12 in New Hampshire. The commission shall:

13 (a) Consider how to encourage development projects that create well-compensated jobs
14 renovating affordable housing units, installing rooftop solar panels, and carrying out environmental
15 remediation projects, such as building micro-grids and replacing lead pipes, in front line
16 communities.

17 (b) Determine how to make electricity more affordable for low and moderate income
18 communities through an initiative that directs utility companies to complete a percentage of retrofits
19 over a multi-year period, and ensures the cost of the retrofits is not passed on to low-income housing
20 residents.

21 (c) Study how to ensure that fair labor standards are upheld for all those conducting
22 green housing rehabilitation, including \$15/hour or prevailing wages, whichever is higher, and
23 access to collective bargaining.

24 (d) Plan for workforce development training, with a priority given to building trades as
25 trainers, and the recruitment of community members where the work will be conducted.

26 IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The
27 first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting
28 of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Six members of
29 the commission shall constitute a quorum.

30 V. The commission shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
31 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
32 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2021.

33 4 Repeal. RSA 204-C:70-a, relative to the commission to study green housing and utility source
34 options, is repealed.

35 5 Effective Date.

36 I. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

37 II. Section 4 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2021.

1 III. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

SB 73-FN-A- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT establishing a green building standards initiative as part of the low or moderate income housing loan program and making an appropriation therefor; and establishing a commission to study green housing and utility source options.

FISCAL IMPACT: ☒ **State** ☐ **County** ☐ **Local** ☐ **None**

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Appropriation	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	\$1	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source:</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Highway <input type="checkbox"/> Other			

METHODOLOGY:

This bill establishes a green building standards initiative as part of the low or moderate income housing loan program administered by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority and makes an appropriation of \$1 in FY 2022 to the Authority for this purpose. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

None