



Sen. Wm. Sam McCann

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LRB098 06517 KTG 57169 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 1998

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 1998 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Finance Authority Act is amended
5 by adding Section 825-120 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 3501/825-120 new)

7 Sec. 825-120. Propane Purchase Assistance Revolving Loan
8 Program; special fund.

9 (a) In this Section, "propane" means a hydrocarbon whose
10 chemical composition is predominantly C₃H₈, whether recovered
11 from natural gas or crude oil, and includes liquefied petroleum
12 gases and mixtures thereof.

13 (b) The Illinois Finance Authority shall administer a
14 propane purchase assistance revolving loan program ("the
15 program"). The program shall provide short-term low-interest
16 or zero-interest loans to propane distributors and to small

1 businesses and farmers that use propane.

2 (c) Funds for the loans shall be paid out of the Propane
3 Purchase Assistance Revolving Loan Fund ("the Fund"), a special
4 fund created in the State treasury. The moneys in the Fund
5 shall consist of any moneys transferred or appropriated into
6 the Fund as well as all repayments of loans made under the
7 program. Moneys in the Fund may be used only for loans to
8 propane distributors, small businesses, and farmers for the
9 purchase of propane and for no other purpose. All interest
10 earned on moneys in the Fund must be deposited into the Fund.

11 (d) No later than 5 business days after the effective date
12 of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly, the State
13 Comptroller shall direct and the Treasurer shall transfer
14 \$20,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund into the Propane
15 Purchase Assistance Revolving Loan Fund.

16 (e) When loan repayments are made that are no longer needed
17 for the purposes of the program, the State Comptroller shall
18 direct and the Treasurer shall transfer those moneys from the
19 Propane Purchase Assistance Revolving Loan Fund into the
20 General Revenue Fund.

21 (f) The Authority, with the assistance of the Department of
22 Commerce and Economic Opportunity, shall adopt rules,
23 including emergency rules adopted in accordance with Section
24 5-45 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, necessary to
25 implement this Section.

1 Section 10. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
2 Sections 5.855 and 5.856 as follows:

3 (30 ILCS 105/5.855 new)

4 Sec. 5.855. The Propane Purchase Assistance Revolving Loan
5 Fund.

6 (30 ILCS 105/5.856 new)

7 Sec. 5.856. The Temporary Propane Purchase Assistance
8 Fund.

9 Section 15. The Energy Assistance Act is amended by
10 changing Section 6 and by adding Section 7.5 as follows:

11 (305 ILCS 20/6) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 1406)

12 Sec. 6. Eligibility, Conditions of Participation, and
13 Energy Assistance.

14 (a) Any person who is a resident of the State of Illinois
15 and whose household income is not greater than an amount
16 determined annually by the Department, in consultation with the
17 Policy Advisory Council, may apply for assistance pursuant to
18 this Act in accordance with regulations promulgated by the
19 Department. In setting the annual eligibility level, the
20 Department shall consider the amount of available funding and
21 may not set a limit higher than 150% of the federal nonfarm
22 poverty level as established by the federal Office of

1 Management and Budget; except as provided in Section 7.5, and
2 except that for the period ending June 30, 2013, the Department
3 may not establish limits higher than 200% of that poverty level
4 or the maximum level provided for by federal guidelines.

5 (b) Applicants who qualify for assistance pursuant to
6 subsection (a) of this Section shall, subject to appropriation
7 from the General Assembly and subject to availability of funds
8 to the Department, receive energy assistance as provided by
9 this Act. The Department, upon receipt of monies authorized
10 pursuant to this Act for energy assistance, shall commit funds
11 for each qualified applicant in an amount determined by the
12 Department. In determining the amounts of assistance to be
13 provided to or on behalf of a qualified applicant, the
14 Department shall ensure that the highest amounts of assistance
15 go to households with the greatest energy costs in relation to
16 household income. The Department shall include factors such as
17 energy costs, household size, household income, and region of
18 the State when determining individual household benefits. In
19 setting assistance levels, the Department shall attempt to
20 provide assistance to approximately the same number of
21 households who participated in the 1991 Residential Energy
22 Assistance Partnership Program. Such assistance levels shall
23 be adjusted annually on the basis of funding availability and
24 energy costs. In promulgating rules for the administration of
25 this Section the Department shall assure that a minimum of 1/3
26 of funds available for benefits to eligible households with the

1 lowest incomes and that elderly and disabled households are
2 offered a priority application period.

3 (c) If the applicant is not a customer of record of an
4 energy provider for energy services or an applicant for such
5 service, such applicant shall receive a direct energy
6 assistance payment in an amount established by the Department
7 for all such applicants under this Act; provided, however, that
8 such an applicant must have rental expenses for housing greater
9 than 30% of household income.

10 (c-1) This subsection shall apply only in cases where: (1)
11 the applicant is not a customer of record of an energy provider
12 because energy services are provided by the owner of the unit
13 as a portion of the rent; (2) the applicant resides in housing
14 subsidized or developed with funds provided under the Rental
15 Housing Support Program Act or under a similar locally funded
16 rent subsidy program, or is the voucher holder who resides in a
17 rental unit within the State of Illinois and whose monthly rent
18 is subsidized by the tenant-based Housing Choice Voucher
19 Program under Section 8 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937; and
20 (3) the rental expenses for housing are no more than 30% of
21 household income. In such cases, the household may apply for an
22 energy assistance payment under this Act and the owner of the
23 housing unit shall cooperate with the applicant by providing
24 documentation of the energy costs for that unit. Any
25 compensation paid to the energy provider who supplied energy
26 services to the household shall be paid on behalf of the owner

1 of the housing unit providing energy services to the household.
2 The Department shall report annually to the General Assembly on
3 the number of households receiving energy assistance under this
4 subsection and the cost of such assistance. The provisions of
5 this subsection (c-1), other than this sentence, are
6 inoperative after August 31, 2012.

7 (d) If the applicant is a customer of an energy provider,
8 such applicant shall receive energy assistance in an amount
9 established by the Department for all such applicants under
10 this Act, such amount to be paid by the Department to the
11 energy provider supplying winter energy service to such
12 applicant. Such applicant shall:

13 (i) make all reasonable efforts to apply to any other
14 appropriate source of public energy assistance; and

15 (ii) sign a waiver permitting the Department to receive
16 income information from any public or private agency
17 providing income or energy assistance and from any
18 employer, whether public or private.

19 (e) Any qualified applicant pursuant to this Section may
20 receive or have paid on such applicant's behalf an emergency
21 assistance payment to enable such applicant to obtain access to
22 winter energy services. Any such payments shall be made in
23 accordance with regulations of the Department.

24 (f) The Department may, if sufficient funds are available,
25 provide additional benefits to certain qualified applicants:

26 (i) for the reduction of past due amounts owed to

1 energy providers; and

2 (ii) to assist the household in responding to
3 excessively high summer temperatures or energy costs.
4 Households containing elderly members, children, a person
5 with a disability, or a person with a medical need for
6 conditioned air shall receive priority for receipt of such
7 benefits.

8 (Source: P.A. 96-154, eff. 1-1-10; 96-157, eff. 9-1-09;
9 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10; 97-721, eff. 6-29-12.)

10 (305 ILCS 20/7.5 new)

11 Sec. 7.5. Temporary Propane Purchase Assistance Program;
12 special fund.

13 (a) In this Section, "propane" means a hydrocarbon whose
14 chemical composition is predominantly C₃H₈, whether recovered
15 from natural gas or crude oil, and includes liquefied petroleum
16 gases and mixtures thereof.

17 (b) The Department shall establish a temporary propane
18 purchase assistance program ("the program") to ensure the
19 availability and affordability of propane to low-income
20 residents. Under the program, when an energy provider supplies
21 winter energy in the form of propane to a program participant
22 for use in the participant's residence, the State shall
23 compensate the provider pursuant to rules adopted by the
24 Department. The rules shall provide for participation in the
25 program by homeowners, by renters of residential housing, and

1 by persons who are not customers of record of an energy
2 provider. The program shall provide assistance for the purchase
3 of propane supplied by an energy provider on or after December
4 1, 2013, and before May 15, 2014. The program shall terminate
5 on May 15, 2014.

6 (c) A person who is a resident of this State and whose
7 annual household income is not greater than 186% of the poverty
8 guidelines as updated for 2013 in the Federal Register by the
9 United States Department of Health and Human Services under the
10 authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2) may apply for assistance in the
11 form of compensation to energy providers under the program for
12 propane purchased from an energy provider. Persons eligible to
13 participate in the program may apply at any time during the
14 period beginning December 1, 2013 and ending May 15, 2014 for
15 assistance in purchasing propane supplied by an energy provider
16 for residential use during that period.

17 (d) Assistance under the program, consisting of
18 compensation paid to energy providers as provided in subsection
19 (b), shall be paid out of the Temporary Propane Purchase
20 Assistance Fund ("the Fund"), a special fund created in the
21 State treasury. The moneys in the Fund shall consist of any
22 moneys transferred or appropriated into the Fund. Moneys in the
23 Fund may be used only for compensation to providers of propane
24 under the program and for no other purpose. All interest earned
25 on moneys in the Fund shall be deposited into the Fund.

26 No later than 5 business days after the effective date of

1 this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly, the State
2 Comptroller shall direct and the Treasurer shall transfer
3 \$10,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund into the Temporary
4 Propane Purchase Assistance Fund.

5 No later than May 31, 2014, the State Comptroller shall
6 direct and the Treasurer shall transfer all moneys remaining in
7 the Temporary Propane Purchase Assistance Fund from that Fund
8 into the General Revenue Fund.

9 (e) The Department shall adopt rules, including emergency
10 rules adopted in accordance with Section 5-45 of the Illinois
11 Administrative Procedure Act, necessary to implement this
12 Section.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
14 becoming law.".