

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2001

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 474**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Negrete McLeod**

February 21, 2001

---

---

An act to add Section 12087.5 to the Government Code, relating to energy resources, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 474, as amended, Negrete McLeod. Low-income energy efficiency program.

(1) Existing law requires the Department of Community Services and Development, among other things, to coordinate antipoverty efforts throughout the state.

This bill would establish the California Low-Income Energy Efficiency Program (CLIEEP). The department would be required to adopt regulations that would result in reduced rates for low-income gas and electric customers, increased weatherization of energy inefficient homes of low-income persons, and replacement of outdated appliances with energy efficient models for low-income gas and electric customers. The funding provided for this program would be allocated according to the formula developed by the ~~Secretary of Energy under the Federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program~~ *Department of Community Services and Development, which is based on low income population, energy, and climate considers income, climate, and household energy need factors, as specified.*

(2) The bill would appropriate an unspecified amount from the General Fund to the department for the purpose of implementing the bill.

Vote: <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to do all of  
2 the following:

3 (1) Reduce the ~~gas and electric~~ energy rates of low-income gas  
4 and electric customers, *as those customers are determined by the*  
5 *Department of Community Services and Development.*

6 (2) Provide incentives and mechanisms to weatherize energy  
7 inefficient homes of low-income gas and electric customers.

8 (3) Create a program to replace old and outdated energy  
9 inefficient appliances, such as refrigerators, air conditioners, and  
10 heating units, owned by low-income gas and electric customers,  
11 with new energy efficient appliances that are approved by the State  
12 Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.

13 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to create a program that  
14 compliments, but does not duplicate, existing federal or state  
15 energy assistance programs, and that is tailored to the needs of  
16 local communities.

17 (c) It is further the intent of the Legislature to encourage a  
18 market that will provide an environment for further technological  
19 development of energy-efficient products *and for greater*  
20 *utilization of alternative energy technologies, including, but not*  
21 *limited to, those powered by solar, biomass, and wind.*

22 SEC. 2. Section 12087.5 is added to the Government Code, to  
23 read:

24 12087.5. (a) The Department of Community Services and  
25 Development shall administer a program of assistance to  
26 low-income electric and gas customers. The program shall be  
27 known, and may be cited as, *as* the California Low-Income  
28 Energy Efficiency Program or CLIEEP.

29 ~~(b) Funding provided for the program shall be allocated by the~~  
30 ~~department in accordance with the formula developed by the~~  
31 ~~Secretary of Energy for the Federal Low Income Home Energy~~  
32 ~~Assistance Program (LIHEAP) pursuant to Section 8621 of Title~~



1 ~~42 of the United States Code, based on low-income population,~~  
2 ~~energy, and climactic factors.~~

3 (b) (1) *The Department of Community Services and*  
4 *Development shall develop a formula for allocating program*  
5 *funds that considers each of the following factors:*

6 (A) *Low-income populations.*

7 (B) *Climate.*

8 (C) *Household energy needs.*

9 (2) *In determining individual household energy needs the*  
10 *department shall take into account both of the following factors:*

11 (A) *The energy burdens of the household.*

12 (B) *The existence of vulnerable residents in the household,*  
13 *including, but not limited to, children ages five and younger,*  
14 *individuals with disabilities, or individuals over the age of 60.*

15 (c) *The department shall adopt regulations to implement the*  
16 *program in a manner that will accomplish all of the following*  
17 *goals:*

18 (1) *Reduced ~~gas and utility~~ energy rates for low-income*  
19 *customers.*

20 (2) *Increased weatherization of energy inefficient homes of*  
21 *low-income persons.*

22 (3) *Replacement of old and outdated energy inefficient*  
23 *appliances, such as refrigerators, air conditioners, and heating*  
24 *units, owned by low-income persons, with new energy efficient*  
25 *appliances that are approved by the State Energy Resources*  
26 *Conservation and Development Commission.*

27 SEC. 3. *The sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_\_) is hereby*  
28 *appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of*  
29 *Community Services and Development to be used for the purpose*  
30 *of implementing the California Low-Income Energy Efficiency*  
31 *Program pursuant to Section 12087.5 of the Government Code.*

