



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2008

LCO No. 5089

HB0560005089HRO

Offered by:
REP. CHAPIN, 67th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5600 File No. 582 Cal. No. 75

"AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 16a-40b of the 2008 supplement to the general
4 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
5 (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

6 (a) The commissioner, acting on behalf of the state, may, with
7 respect to loans for which funds have been authorized by the State
8 Bond Commission prior to July 1, 1992, in his discretion make low-cost
9 loans or deferred loans to residents of this state for the purchase and
10 installation in residential structures of insulation, alternative energy
11 devices, energy conservation materials, technologies that reduce
12 greenhouse gas emissions and replacement furnaces and boilers,
13 approved in accordance with regulations to be adopted by the
14 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. In the purchase and
15 installation of insulation in new residential structures, only that

16 insulation which exceeds the requirements of the State Building Code
17 shall be eligible for such loans or deferred loans. The commissioner
18 may also make low-cost loans or deferred loans to persons in the state
19 residing in dwellings constructed not later than December 31, 1979,
20 and for which the primary source of heating since such date has been
21 electric resistance, for (1) the purchase and installation of a high-
22 efficiency secondary heating system using a source of heat other than
23 electric resistance, (2) the conversion of a primary electric heating
24 system to a high-efficiency system using a source of heat other than
25 electric resistance, or (3) the purchase and installation of a high-
26 efficiency combination heating and cooling system. As used in this
27 subsection, "high-efficiency" means having a seasonal energy efficiency
28 ratio of 11.0 or higher, or a heating season performance factor of 7.2 or
29 higher, as designated by the American Refrigeration Institute in the
30 Directory of Certified Unitary Air Conditioners, Air Source Heat
31 Pumps and Outdoor Unitary Equipment, as from time to time
32 amended, or an equivalent ratio for a fossil fuel system.

33 (b) Any such loan or deferred loan shall be available only for a
34 residential structure containing not more than four dwelling units,
35 shall be not less than four hundred dollars and not more than [twenty-
36 five] thirty-five thousand dollars per structure and, with respect to any
37 application received on or after November 29, 1979, shall be made only
38 to an applicant who submits evidence, satisfactory to the
39 commissioner, that the adjusted gross income of the household
40 member or members who contribute to the support of his household
41 was not in excess of [one hundred fifty] two hundred per cent of the
42 median area income by household size. In the case of a deferred loan,
43 the contract shall require that payments on interest are due
44 immediately but that payments on principal may be made at a later
45 time. Repayment of all loans made under this subsection shall be
46 subject to a rate of interest to be determined in accordance with
47 subsection (t) of section 3-20 and such terms and conditions as the
48 commissioner may establish. The State Bond Commission shall
49 establish a range of rates of interest payable on all loans under this

50 subsection and shall apply the range to applicants in accordance with a
51 formula which reflects their income. Such range shall be not less than
52 zero per cent for any applicant in the lowest income class and not more
53 than one per cent above the rate of interest borne by the general
54 obligation bonds of the state last issued prior to the most recent date
55 such range was established for any applicant for whom the adjusted
56 gross income of the household member or members who contribute to
57 the support of his household does not exceed one hundred fifty per
58 cent of the median area income by household size.

59 (c) The commissioner shall establish a program under which he
60 shall make funds deposited in the Energy Conservation Loan Fund
61 available for low-cost loans or deferred loans under subsection (a) of
62 this section for residential structures containing more than four
63 dwelling units, or for contracts guaranteeing payment of loans or
64 deferred loans provided by private institutions for such structures for
65 the purposes specified under subsection (a) of this section. Any such
66 loan or deferred loan shall be an amount equaling not more than two
67 thousand dollars multiplied by the number of dwelling units in such
68 structure, provided no such loan or deferred loan shall exceed sixty
69 thousand dollars. If the applicant seeks a loan or deferred loan for a
70 structure containing more than thirty dwelling units, he shall include
71 in his application a commitment to make comparable energy
72 improvements of benefit to all dwelling units in the structure in
73 addition to the thirty units which are eligible for the loan or deferred
74 loan. Applications for contracts of guarantee shall be limited to
75 structures containing not more than thirty dwelling units and the
76 amount of the guarantee shall be not more than three thousand dollars
77 for each dwelling unit benefiting from the loan or deferred loan. There
78 shall not be an income eligibility limitation for applicants for such
79 loans, deferred loans or guarantees, but the commissioner shall give
80 preference to applications for loans, deferred loans or guarantees for
81 such structures which are occupied by persons of low or moderate
82 income. Repayment of such loans or deferred loans shall be subject to
83 such rates of interest, terms and conditions as the commissioner shall

84 establish. The state shall have a lien on each property for which a loan,
85 deferred loan or guarantee has been made under this section to ensure
86 compliance with such terms and conditions.

87 (d) With respect to such loans made on or after July 1, 1981, all
88 repayments of principal shall be paid to the State Treasurer for deposit
89 in the Housing Repayment and Revolving Loan Fund. The interest
90 applicable to any such loans made shall be paid to the State Treasurer
91 for deposit in the General Fund. After the close of each fiscal year,
92 commencing with the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, and
93 prior to the date of the calculation required under subsection (f) of this
94 section, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
95 shall cause any balance of loan repayments under this section
96 remaining in said fund to be transferred to the Energy Conservation
97 Loan Fund created pursuant to section 16a-40a.

98 (e) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
99 chapter 54, (1) concerning qualifications for such loans or deferred
100 loans, requirements and limitations as to adjustments of terms and
101 conditions of repayment and any additional requirements deemed
102 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section and to assure that
103 those tax-exempt bonds and notes used to fund such loans or deferred
104 loans qualify for exemption from federal income taxation, (2)
105 providing for the maximum feasible availability of such loans or
106 deferred loans for dwelling units owned or occupied by persons of low
107 and moderate income, (3) establishing procedures to inform such
108 persons of the availability of such loans or deferred loans and to
109 encourage and assist them to apply for such loans or deferred loans,
110 and (4) providing that (A) the interest payments received from the
111 recipients of loans or deferred loans made on and after July 1, 1982,
112 less the expenses incurred by the commissioner in the implementation
113 of the program of loans, deferred loans and loan guarantees under this
114 section, and (B) the payments received from electric and gas
115 companies under subsection (f) of this section shall be applied to
116 reimburse the General Fund for interest on the outstanding bonds and
117 notes used to fund such loans or deferred loans made on or after July

118 1, 1982.

119 (f) Not later than August first, annually, the commissioner shall
120 calculate the difference between (1) the weighted average of the
121 percentage rates of interest payable on all subsidized loans made (A)
122 after July 1, 1982, from the Energy Conservation Loan Fund, (B) from
123 the Home Heating System Loan Fund established under section 16a-
124 40k, and (C) from the Housing Repayment and Revolving Loan Fund
125 pursuant to this section, and (2) the average of the percentage rates of
126 interest on any bonds and notes issued pursuant to section 3-20, which
127 have been dedicated to the energy conservation loan program and
128 used to fund such loans, and multiply such difference by the
129 outstanding amount of all such loans, or such lesser amount as may be
130 required under Section 103(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or
131 any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United
132 States, as from time to time amended. The product of such difference
133 and such applicable amount shall not exceed six per cent of the sum of
134 the outstanding principal amount at the end of each fiscal year of all
135 loans or deferred loans made (A) on or after July 1, 1982, from the
136 Energy Conservation Loan Fund, (B) from the Home Heating System
137 Loan Fund established under section 16a-40k, and (C) from the
138 Housing Repayment and Revolving Loan Fund pursuant to this
139 section, and the balance remaining in the Energy Conservation Loan
140 Fund and the balance of energy conservation loan repayments in the
141 Housing Repayment and Revolving Loan Fund. Not later than
142 September first, annually, the Department of Public Utility Control
143 shall allocate such product among each electric and gas company
144 having at least seventy-five thousand customers, in accordance with a
145 formula taking into account, without limitation, the average number of
146 residential customers of each company. Not later than October first,
147 annually, each such company shall pay its assessed amount to the
148 commissioner. The commissioner shall pay to the State Treasurer for
149 deposit in the General Fund all such payments from electric and gas
150 companies, and shall adopt procedures to assure that such payments
151 are not used for purposes other than those specifically provided in this

152 section. The department shall include each company's payment as an
153 operating expense of the company for the purposes of rate-making
154 under section 16-19.

155 Sec. 2. Subdivision (8) of section 16a-4a of the general statutes is
156 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
157 *1, 2008*):

158 (8) Provide technical assistance to [municipalities that want] any
159 municipality that chooses to aggregate electric generation services.
160 Such assistance shall include establishing a program to share
161 knowledge, experience and information with each such municipality
162 on energy procurement, including, but not limited to, electricity.

163 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Renewable Energy
164 Investments Board, established pursuant to section 16-245m of the
165 2008 supplement to the general statutes, shall establish a residential
166 photovoltaic rebate program to encourage homeowners to install
167 residential photovoltaic systems. The program may provide for a
168 rebate of up to fifty-one thousand five hundred dollars per ten
169 kilowatt system for qualifying projects. Applications for such rebate
170 program may be submitted from June 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008.
171 The cost of the program shall be paid from the Renewable Energy
172 Investment Fund. A homeowner may apply for a loan in accordance
173 with subsection (a) of section 16a-40b of the 2008 supplement to the
174 general statutes, as amended by this act, to pay for any remaining
175 balance of the cost incurred by such homeowner to install such a
176 system.

177 (b) Each electric distribution company furnishing electric service in
178 this state shall include in its monthly bills to utility customers
179 informational inserts supplied by the Renewable Energy Investments
180 Board concerning the program established in subsection (a) of this
181 section in utility customers' bills. All costs associated with such
182 informational insert shall be paid from the Renewable Energy
183 Investment Fund.

184 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) Between July 1, 2008, and
185 July 1, 2017, inclusive, the Fuel Oil Conservation Board, established
186 pursuant to section 16a-22l of the 2008 supplement to the general
187 statutes, in consultation with the Energy Conservation Management
188 Board, established pursuant to section 16-245m of the 2008 supplement
189 to the general statutes, shall develop and establish a program to
190 provide a rebate in the amount of five hundred dollars for the
191 purchase and installation in residential structures of replacement
192 propane and oil furnaces and boilers that are not less than eighty-four
193 per cent efficient and natural gas furnaces or boilers that meet or
194 exceed federal Energy Star standards. Such rebates shall not exceed
195 two million dollars in the aggregate per year. Such rebates shall only
196 be available for residential structures containing not more than four
197 dwelling units.

198 (b) The rebate program established pursuant to subsection (a) of this
199 section shall be paid from funds available under the fuel oil
200 conservation account, established pursuant to subdivision (3) of
201 subsection (e) of section 16a-22l of the 2008 supplement to the general
202 statutes, and the account established pursuant to subsection (b) of
203 section 16-32f of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes.

204 (c) On or before January 1, 2010, the Energy Conservation
205 Management Board and the Fuel Oil Conservation Board shall report
206 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
207 cognizance of matters relating to energy the results of the rebate
208 program established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

209 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) There is established a "green
210 collar jobs program", which shall be offered through the state-wide
211 system of regional vocational-technical schools established pursuant to
212 section 10-95 of the general statutes. Such program may include, but
213 not be limited to, training for energy efficient building, construction
214 and building retrofit trades and industries; residential, commercial or
215 industrial energy efficiency assessment; renewable energy
216 technologies; and sustainable climate change and environmental

217 compliance strategies.

218 (b) Funding for the green collar jobs program shall be made
219 available under the fuel oil conservation account, established pursuant
220 to subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of section 16a-22l of the 2008
221 supplement to the general statutes; the Energy Conservation and Load
222 Management Fund, established pursuant to subsection (b) of section
223 16-245m of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes; and the
224 account established pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-32f of the
225 2008 supplement to the general statutes. Funding for the program shall
226 not exceed one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars for the fiscal
227 year commencing July 1, 2008.

228 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The operator of any motor
229 bus shall not operate the engine of any motor bus for more than three
230 consecutive minutes when the bus is not in motion except when (1)
231 traffic conditions or uncontrollable mechanical difficulties force the
232 bus to remain motionless, (2) operating the bus's heating, cooling or
233 auxiliary equipment is necessary to accomplish the intended use of the
234 bus, including, but not limited to, the operation of safety equipment,
235 (3) the outdoor temperature is below twenty degrees Fahrenheit, (4)
236 maintaining a safe temperature for students with special needs is
237 necessary, (5) the bus is being repaired, or (6) the operator is in the
238 process of receiving or discharging passengers on a public highway or
239 public road.

240 (b) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be
241 deemed to have committed an infraction for the first offense and for
242 each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred
243 dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

244 (c) Each person who pays in any sum as a fine or forfeiture for any
245 violation of this section shall pay an additional fee of ten dollars. The
246 state shall remit to the municipality in which such violation occurred
247 the amount paid under this subsection. Each clerk of the Superior
248 Court or the Chief Court Administrator, or any other official of the

249 Superior Court designated by the Chief Court Administrator, on or
 250 before the thirtieth day of January, April, July and October in each
 251 year, shall certify to the Comptroller the amount due for the previous
 252 quarter under this subsection to each municipality served by the office
 253 of the clerk or official.

254 Sec. 7. Section 16a-46e of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes
 255 is repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2008*)"

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	16a-40b
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	16a-4a(8)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	Repealer section