



Sen. Sue Rezin

Filed: 2/16/2022

10200SB1479sam001

LRB102 11257 KTG 36197 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 1479

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 1479 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Home
5 Heating Relief Act of 2022.

6 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

7 (1) Nearly half of U.S. households that heat with
8 natural gas are projected to spend 30% more than they did
9 last winter on average, according to the Winter Fuels
10 Outlook 2021 report from the U.S. Energy Information
11 Administration. The 41% that heat with electricity are
12 expected to spend 6% more. Propane users will spend 54%
13 more this winter, while heating oil users could see bills
14 go up 43%, according to the report.

15 (2) Energy prices were up 29.3%, according to the
16 December 2021 consumer price index from the U.S. Bureau of

1 Labor Statistics. Furthermore, fuel oil is roughly 40%
2 more expensive than last year, electricity is up 6.3%, and
3 natural gas market prices rose by more than 24%.

4 (3) These scenarios are tough on household budgets as
5 families deal with inflation. The State should do more in
6 addition to the Illinois Low Income Home Energy Assistance
7 Program to help offset some of these high energy prices
8 during the winter months of 2022.

9 Section 10. Home Heating Rebate Program.

10 (a) As soon as practicable, the Department of Commerce and
11 Economic Opportunity shall create a Home Heating Rebate
12 Program to provide rebates to households that use natural gas
13 or propane gas for heating purposes and that have a median
14 household income between 200% and 400% of the poverty
15 guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the
16 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the
17 authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2). Eligible households shall
18 receive the rebates as soon as practicable after
19 implementation of the program. The Department shall, by rule,
20 establish qualifications for program participation, which may
21 include requirements that apply under the Energy Assistance
22 Act and other requirements.

23 (b) Rebates provided under the program shall be funded
24 through appropriations made from the Home Heating Rebate
25 Relief Fund created under Section 15. The State Comptroller

1 shall direct and the State Treasurer shall transfer
2 \$500,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Home Heating
3 Rebate Relief Fund to provide rebates to qualifying households
4 for State fiscal years 2022 and 2023. Any funds left over at
5 the end of the second month following implementation of the
6 Home Heating Rebate Program may be awarded to certain
7 qualifying first-time small business owners as determined by
8 the Department.

9 (c) The Department shall adopt emergency rules in
10 accordance with the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act to
11 implement the Home Heating Rebate Program.

12 Section 15. Home Heating Rebate Relief Fund. The Home
13 Heating Rebate Relief Fund is created as a special fund in the
14 State treasury. The Fund shall consist of any moneys deposited
15 into the Fund as provided under subsection (b) of Section 10.
16 Moneys in the Fund shall be expended for the Home Heating
17 Rebate Program as provided under Section 10 and for no other
18 purpose. All interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall be
19 deposited into the Fund.

20 Section 90. The Illinois Administrative Procedure Act is
21 amended by adding Section 5-45.21 as follows:

22 (5 ILCS 100/5-45.21 new)

23 Sec. 5-45.21. Emergency rulemaking; Home Heating Rebate

1 Program. To provide for the expeditious and timely
2 implementation of the Home Heating Rebate Program authorized
3 under the Home Heating Relief Act of 2022, emergency rules
4 implementing the Home Heating Rebate Program may be adopted in
5 accordance with Section 5-45 by the Department of Commerce and
6 Economic Opportunity. The adoption of emergency rules
7 authorized by Section 5-45 and this Section is deemed to be
8 necessary for the public interest, safety, and welfare.

9 This Section is repealed one year after the effective date
10 of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly.

11 Section 95. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
12 Section 5.970 as follows:

13 (30 ILCS 105/5.970 new)

14 Sec. 5.970. The Home Heating Rebate Relief Fund.

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
16 becoming law."