

Committee: EUT  
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Date: 4/29/21

**LD 551**  
**Proposed amendment, Representative Kessler**

*Amend the bill by striking all of sections 1 and 2 and inserting the following:*

**Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §10102, sub-§6-A** is enacted to read:

**6-A. Low-income.** "Low-income" means, when used to describe an individual or member of a household:

A. An individual or household participating in any local, state or federal program that is based on income eligibility; or

B. An individual or household that meets certain eligibility criteria specified by the trust by rule.

**Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §10104, sub-§4, ¶F**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 313, §5 and c. 476, §4, is further amended by repealing subparagraph (2) and enacting the following in its place:

(2) For the period beginning January 1, 2020 and ending January 1, 2025, weatherizing 17,500 homes and businesses and for the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending January 1, 2030, weatherizing an additional 17,500 homes and businesses. Beginning January 1, 2022 and ending January 1, 2030, the weatherization goals under this subparagraph must include weatherizing at least 1,000 units of housing for low-income individuals or households per year; and

*Amend the bill by striking all of section 4. Renumber subsequent sections as necessary.*

*Amend the bill by striking all of section 7 and inserting the following:*

**Sec. 7. 35-A MRSA §10119, sub-§2, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 306, §6, is further amended by repealing subparagraph (1) and enacting the following in its place:

(1) For the period beginning January 1, 2020 and ending January 1, 2025, to weatherize 17,500 homes and businesses and for the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending January 1, 2030, to weatherize an additional 17,500 homes and businesses. Beginning January 1, 2022 and ending January 1, 2030, the weatherization goals under this subparagraph must include weatherizing at least 1,000 units of housing for low-income individuals or households per year; and

*Amend the bill by adding an additional section(s) that accomplishes the following (details/specific process for accomplishing this proposal would need to be determined):*

- Direct the State Controller to transfer to the Efficiency Maine Trust from the General Fund an amount of money not to exceed \$12 million per year between now and 2030 to be used under the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund in Section 10119 to achieve the weatherization goals set forth in Section 10119(2)(A)(1) as amended in the bill.
- Those yearly transfers must be reduced by an amount equal to the revenues anticipated to be deposited in the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund from the sources listed in Section 10119(1) and available for use in achieving the weatherization goals set forth in Section 10119(2)(A)(1) as amended in the bill.

### **SUMMARY**

This amendment amends the bill as follows.

1. It amends the definition of “low income” provided in the bill to allow the Efficiency Maine Trust to alternatively define that term by rule based on certain specified eligibility criteria.
2. It clarifies the time frame in which weatherization goals described in the bill are to be achieved.
3. It removes from the bill the allowance for Efficiency Maine Trust funds for conservation programs that help reduce energy costs for electricity consumers to be used toward the achievement of those weatherization goals.
4. It directs the State Controller to transfer to the Efficiency Maine Trust from the General Fund an amount of money not to exceed \$12 million per year to be used under the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10119 to achieve those weatherization goals, which must be reduced by an amount equal to the revenues anticipated to otherwise be deposited in that fund and available for use to achieve those weatherization goals.