

By: Rodriguez

H.B. No. 2629

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to incentives in the low income housing tax credit program to reward applicants who agree to use energy-saving devices and energy conservation measures in a project.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 2306.6725, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1) Regardless of whether the applicants satisfy any other conditions provided by Subsection (b), the department shall provide appropriate incentives as determined through the qualified allocation plan to reward applicants who agree to equip the property that is the basis of the application with energy-saving devices that meet the standards established by the state energy conservation office or with other energy conservation measures specified by the department in the plan. Energy conservation measures specified by the department may include:

(1) the installation of plumbing fixtures that conserve water;

(2) the installation of solar water heaters;

(3) the use of trees or other landscaping;

(4) the installation of rainwater harvesting equipment;

(5) the installation of Energy Star-labeled windows and glass doors; and

1 (6) the use of construction waste management at the
2 project site.

3 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
4 an application for low income housing tax credits that is submitted
5 to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs during an
6 application cycle that begins on or after the effective date of this
7 Act. An application that is submitted during an application cycle
8 that began before the effective date of this Act is governed by the
9 law in effect at the time the application cycle began, and the
10 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.