88R7066 ANG-F

By:  Zwiener H.B. No. 3061

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of certain energy efficiency programs.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 388, Health and Safety Code, is amended by designating Sections 388.001 through 388.012 as Subchapter A and adding a subchapter heading to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER A. BUILDING ENERGY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

SECTION 2.  Chapter 388, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter B to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

Sec. 388.051.  ENERGY EFFICIENCY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM. (a) The comptroller and the State Energy Conservation Office by rule shall establish and administer a program to issue or guarantee loans for energy audits, upgrades, or retrofits to increase the energy efficiency of commercial buildings and residences that are not newly constructed.

(b)  Rules adopted under this section must establish eligibility requirements to receive a loan or loan guarantee under this section. The requirements must include emissions reduction cost-effectiveness criteria.

(c)  The State Energy Conservation Office shall:

(1)  use money from federal grants available through the United States Department of Energy to begin the program established under this section and leverage private capital or state resources, if money available under the grants is appropriated for that purpose; and

(2)  establish policies for the use of federal grants that are compatible with requirements associated with the issuance of those grants.

(d)  The State Energy Conservation Office may use a portion of the money or other resources described by Subsection (c) for grants, technical assistance, or administrative expenses.

Sec. 388.052.  HOME REBATE PROGRAM. (a) The comptroller and the State Energy Conservation Office shall establish a home rebate program for whole-house energy savings retrofit programs that will make rebates available to eligible third-party aggregators and households, including single-family and multifamily residences, to make existing residences more energy efficient.

(b)  The State Energy Conservation Office shall establish program requirements that are compatible with federal standards and beneficial to the state.

(c)  The State Energy Conservation Office may use money available to the office for purposes of this section for grants, technical assistance, and administrative expenses, including appropriate contracts.

(d)  The State Energy Conservation Office may coordinate with the Public Utility Commission of Texas and electric utility providers, including electric cooperatives and municipally owned utilities, to maximize the benefits of the program established under this section by combining the benefits of the program with other programs.

Sec. 388.053.  HIGH-EFFICIENCY ELECTRIC HOME REBATE PROGRAM. (a) The comptroller and the State Energy Conservation Office shall establish a high-efficiency electric home rebate program for electric appliances that have an overall energy benefit to the state when installed in households, including single-family and multifamily residences.

(b)  The State Energy Conservation Office shall establish program requirements that are compatible with federal standards and beneficial to the state.

(c)  The State Energy Conservation Office may use money available to the office for purposes of this section for grants, technical assistance, and administrative expenses, including appropriate contracts.

Sec. 388.054.  IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM. (a) The comptroller and the State Energy Conservation Office shall establish a program to foster sustained, cost-effective implementation of international codes, including the International Energy Conservation Code and its subsequent revisions, to the extent allowed by state law. The program must provide for training, grants, and other assistance as necessary.

(b)  The State Energy Conservation Office shall establish program requirements that are compatible with federal standards and beneficial to the state.

(c)  The State Energy Conservation Office may use money available to the office for purposes of this section for grants, technical assistance, and administrative expenses.

Sec. 388.055.  REQUIRED REPORTS. The State Energy Conservation Office annually shall submit to the commission and the laboratory a report that:

(1)  evaluates the effectiveness of the programs established under this subchapter; and

(2)  quantifies energy savings and emissions reductions as a result of programs established under this subchapter for consideration in the state implementation plan for emissions reduction credit.

Sec. 388.056.  EXPIRATION. This subchapter expires December 31, 2031.

SECTION 3.  Section 389.002, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 389.002.  USE OF CERTAIN INFORMATION FOR FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS. The commission, using information derived from the reports to the commission under Sections 386.205, 388.003(e), [~~and~~] 388.006, and 388.055, shall take all appropriate and necessary actions so that emissions reductions achieved by means of activities under Chapters 386 and 388 are credited by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to the appropriate emissions reduction objectives in the state implementation plan.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.