

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

1 state resources, if money available under the grants is  
2 appropriated for that purpose; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27       Sec. 388.055. REQUIRED REPORTS. The State Energy

1 Conservation Office annually shall submit to the commission and the  
2 laboratory a report that:

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

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

9 Sec. 388.056. EXPIRATION. This subchapter expires December  
10 31, 2031.

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

13 Sec. 389.002. USE OF CERTAIN INFORMATION FOR FEDERAL  
14 RECOGNITION OF EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS. The commission, using  
15 information derived from the reports to the commission under  
16 Sections 386.205, 388.003(e), ~~and~~ 388.006, and 388.055, shall  
17 take all appropriate and necessary actions so that emissions  
18 reductions achieved by means of activities under Chapters 386 and  
19 388 are credited by the United States Environmental Protection  
20 Agency to the appropriate emissions reduction objectives in the  
21 state implementation plan.

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