# First Regular Session Seventy-first General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

# REVISED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the Second House

LLS NO. 17-1155.01 Esther van Mourik x4215

**SENATE BILL 17-301** 

## SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Scott and Marble,

# **HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

Becker K. and Saine,

## **Senate Committees**

Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy Finance Appropriations

#### **House Committees**

Judiciary Finance Appropriations

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

# 101 CONCERNING ENERGY-RELATED STATUTES.

# **Bill Summary**

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <a href="http://leg.colorado.gov">http://leg.colorado.gov</a>.)

**Section 1** of the bill provides a nonstatutory legislative declaration about the changes in law set forth in section 2 of the bill.

**Section 2** directs the public utilities commission to adopt rules under which investor-owned utilities may submit plans for the acquisition of natural gas reserves to meet their long-term supply needs, subject to the commission's review and approval of applications.

**Section 3** repeals the wind for schools grant program.

**Section 4** repeals the renewable energy and energy efficiency for

HOUSE Amended 2nd Reading May 9, 2017

SENATE Amended 3rd Reading May 9, 2017

SENATE Amended 2nd Reading May 8, 2017

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. <u>Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.</u>

Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.

Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

schools loan program.

**Section 5** removes the Colorado energy office's (office) involvement with the forest service and the air quality control commission to support the increased use of woody biomass in bio-heating.

**Section 6** removes the office's involvement in grants with the Colorado energy research institute for the development of a central resource for building trade professionals.

## Section 7:

- ! Specifies nuclear and hydroelectric power as a cleaner energy source that the office should promote;
- ! Amends the office's requirement to develop and encourage increased utilization of energy curricula, and expands the collaborative groups to include the energy industry and executive departments;
- ! Repeals certain programs for which the office is responsible; and
- ! Requires the director of the office and the executive director of the department of natural resources, or their designees, to convene stakeholders for one or more meetings before November 1, 2017, to identify voluntary methods to address funding shortfalls associated with the long-term management of abandoned oil and gas facilities.

**Section 8** renames the clean and renewable energy fund as the energy fund and continues the general fund transfer to the energy fund for 4 years and adds the authority to spend the money in the fund for educating the general public on energy issues and opportunities.

**Section 9** adds 4 years of funding for the innovative energy fund from the general fund and removes the requirement that the funds used in the innovative energy fund for grants or loans shall be limited to innovative energy efficiency projects and policy development.

**Section 10** repeals the office's authority to submit a proposal for credentialing photovoltaic installers.

**Section 11** repeals the green building incentive pilot program.

**Section 12** repeals the "Colorado Clean Energy Finance Program Act".

**Section 13** removes the office's responsibility to maintain a list of solar installers, the requirement for a builder to offer that list to customers, and the requirement for the office to offer training on solar installations.

**Section 14** removes a requirement for a 2018 study by the office on alternative fuel truck emissions.

**Section 15** removes an obsolete section of law pertaining to a computer system for tracking the movement of gasoline or special fuel in the state

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**Section 16** removes the office as the administrator of the Colorado carbon fund special license plate.

**Section 17** increases the registration fee on electric motor vehicles and the portion of the fee that is earmarked for the highway users tax fund to offset the reduced gas tax collected as a result of the vehicle's increased efficiency.

Current law authorizes a homeowner to finance certain energy efficiency improvements to the home through a loan pursuant to the property assessed clean energy program (PACE). PACE requires an applicant to file a title commitment on the home and a hearing must be held in order to seek a voluntary subordination of existing liens to PACE's junior lien. **Sections 18 through 21** exempt a homeowner from the title commitment and hearing requirements if the owner is not seeking to subordinate the priority of existing liens and clarifies that housing authorities can use PACE as a completely voluntary assessment.

Sections 22 and 23 make conforming amendments.

1	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
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3	SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-313, amend
4	(7)(b) as follows:
5	23-31-313. Healthy forests - vibrant communities - funds
6	created - repeal. (7) Enhanced economic opportunities. In order to
7	support local business development and job creation through the
8	implementation of forest treatments, the forest service shall:
9	(b) Work with the Colorado energy office created in section
10	24-38.5-101, C.R.S., and the air quality control commission created in
11	section 25-7-104 C.R.S., to support the appropriately increased use of
12	woody biomass in bio-heating.
13	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-41-114, amend
14	(4)(b)(VI)(A) as follows:
15	23-41-114. Colorado energy research institute - creation.
16	(4) The institute shall conduct:

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2	designed to meet the information needs of the department of natural
3	resources, other agencies of the state's executive branch, the legislature,
4	and the public:
5	(VI) (A) To provide grants through the Colorado energy office
6	<del>created in section 24-38.5-101, C.R.S.,</del> for the development of a central
7	resource for building trade professionals, including contractors,
8	engineers, architects, and designers, for the purpose of increasing
9	available tools and education to advance energy-efficient design and
10	construction.
11	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-38.5-102, repeal
12	(1)(g) as follows:
13	24-38.5-102. Colorado energy office - duties and powers.
14	(1) The Colorado energy office shall:
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16	(g) Work with the Colorado energy research institute to provide
17	grants to advance energy-efficient design and construction as specified in
18	section 23-41-114 (4)(b)(VI), C.R.S.;
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20	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-38.5-102.4,
21	<b>amend</b> (1)(a)(I), (2)(a), and (2)(b); and <b>add</b> (1)(a)(IV) as follows:
22	24-38.5-102.4. Clean and renewable energy fund - creation -
23	use of fund - definitions - repeal. (1) (a) (I) The clean and renewable
24	energy fund is hereby created in the state treasury. The principal of the
25	fund shall consist CONSISTS of moneys MONEY transferred to the fund
26	from the general fund, moneys MONEY transferred to the fund at the end
27	of the 2006-07 state fiscal year and at the end of each succeeding state

(b) The following specific research and educational programs

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1	fiscal year from moneys MONEY received by the Colorado energy office,
2	moneys MONEY received pursuant to the federal "American Recovery and
3	Reinvestment Act of 2009", Pub.L. 111-5, or any amendments thereto, or
4	from revenue contracts, court settlement funds, supplemental
5	environmental program funds, repayment or return of funds from eligible
6	public depositories, and gifts, grants, and donations, and any other
7	moneys MONEY received by the Colorado energy office. Interest and
8	income earned on the deposit and investment of moneys MONEY in the
9	clean and renewable energy fund shall be ARE credited to the fund.
10	Moneys Money in the fund at the end of any state fiscal year shall remain
11	REMAINS in the fund and shall MAY not be credited to the state general
12	fund or any other fund. Moneys MONEY in the fund shall MAY not be
13	transferred to the innovative energy fund created in section
14	24-38.5-102.5.
15	(IV) (A) ON JULY 1, 2017, AND EACH JULY 1 THEREAFTER
16	THROUGH JULY 1, 2020, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ONE
17	MILLION ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE CLEAN AND
18	RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND FROM THE GENERAL FUND.
19	(B) This subsection (1)(a)(IV) is repealed, effective July 1,

19 (B) This subsection (1)(a)(IV) is repealed, effective July 1, 20 2021.

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- (2) (a) All moneys MONEY in the clean and renewable energy fund are IS continuously appropriated to the Colorado energy office for the purposes of advancing energy efficiency and renewable energy throughout the state.
  - (b) The Colorado energy office may expend moneys MONEY from the clean and renewable energy fund:
    - (I) To attract renewable energy industry investment in the state;

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1	(II) To assist in technology transfer into the marketplace for newly
2	developed energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies;
3	(III) To provide market incentives for the purchase and
4	distribution of energy efficient and renewable energy products;
5	(IV) To assist in the implementation of energy efficiency projects
6	throughout the state;
7	(V) To aid governmental agencies in energy efficiency
8	government initiatives;
9	(VI) To facilitate widespread implementation of renewable energy
10	technologies; and
11	(VII) TO EDUCATE THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON ENERGY ISSUES AND
12	OPPORTUNITIES; AND
13	(VII) (VIII) In any other manner that serves the purposes of
14	advancing energy efficiency and renewable energy throughout the state.
15	<b>SECTION</b> <u>5.</u> In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-38.5-102.5,
16	amend (1)(a) as follows:
17	24-38.5-102.5. Innovative energy fund - creation - use of fund
18	- definitions - repeal. (1) (a) (I) The innovative energy fund is hereby
19	created in the state treasury. The principal of the fund shall consist
20	CONSISTS of moneys MONEY transferred to the fund by the general
21	assembly, moneys MONEY transferred at the end of each state fiscal year
22	from moneys MONEY received by the Colorado energy office, moneys
23	received pursuant to section 39-29-108 (2), C.R.S., or from revenue
24	contracts, court settlement funds, supplemental program funds, repayment
25	or return of funds from eligible public depositories, and gifts, grants, and
26	donations, and any other moneys MONEY received by the Colorado energy
27	office. Interest and income earned on the deposit and investment of

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1	moneys MONEY in the innovative energy fund shall be IS credited to the
2	fund. Moneys MONEY in the fund at the end of any state fiscal year shall
3	remain REMAINS in the fund and shall MAY not be credited to the state
4	general fund or any other fund. Moneys MONEY in the fund shall MAY not
5	be transferred to the clean and renewable energy fund created in section
6	24-38.5-102.4.
7	(II) (A) ON JULY 1, 2017, AND EACH JULY 1 THEREAFTER
8	THROUGH JULY 1, 2020, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ONE
9	MILLION DOLLARS TO THE INNOVATIVE ENERGY FUND FROM THE
10	GENERAL FUND.
11	(B) This subsection (1)(a)(II) is repealed, effective July 1,
12	2021.
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14	SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, repeal part 2 of
15	article 38.5 of title 24 as follows:
16	PART 2
17	GREEN BUILDING INCENTIVE
18	PILOT PROGRAM
19	24-38.5-201. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly
20	hereby finds and declares that:
21	(a) An incentive-based green building pilot program will strive to
22	reduce electricity, gas, and water use in older homes while providing an
23	incentive for homebuyers to purchase new residential construction that
24	meets stringent energy efficiency standards;
25	(b) Providing incentives for new residential construction that
26	meets stringent energy efficiency standards and improving energy
27	efficiency in existing residences can stimulate local and state economies

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1	and provide opportunities for job growth in green jobs and industries that
2	are focused on improving energy efficiency of both new and existing
3	residences; and
4	(c) An incentive-based green building pilot program will benefit
5	homebuyers who are attempting to purchase highly energy efficient new
6	residential construction and retrofit existing homes in an attempt to
7	reduce energy and water consumption.
8	24-38.5-202. Definitions. As used in this part 2, unless the
9	context otherwise requires:
10	(1) "Energy code" means the 2006 international energy
11	conservation code, or any successor edition, published by the
12	international code council or any state or local energy code that has more
13	recent or more stringent requirements.
14	(2) "Energy efficiency improvement" means:
15	(a) An upgrade to a structure, appliance, fixture, plumbing,
16	heating or cooling system, or water heater in any existing residence that
17	is intended to reduce the consumption of electricity, natural gas, water, or
18	any other fuel or energy source; and
19	(b) The installation or upgrade of building insulation, air sealing
20	measures, and duct sealing in any existing residence.
21	(3) "Existing residence" means a residence, either single-family
22	detached or multi-family, that:
23	(a) Is located in Colorado;
24	(b) Is used as the qualified homebuyer's primary residence; and
25	(c) Has a current home energy rating, as determined by a
26	recognized green building rating system, that is below minimum
27	standards, as determined by the energy code.

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1	(4) "Green building incentive pilot program" or "pilot program"
2	means the green building incentive pilot program described in section
3	<del>24-38.5-203.</del>
4	(5) "Highly efficient new residential construction" means a new
5	single-family detached residence or new multi-family residence located
6	in Colorado that is designed and constructed to be at least twenty-five
7	percent more efficient than the energy code's requirements, as
8	documented by a recognized green building rating system.
9	(6) "Home energy audit" means an inspection, survey, and
10	analysis of a home's structure and systems in order to quantify the
11	building's projected energy consumption.
12	(7) "Home energy rating" means an objective and standard
13	measurement of a home's energy efficiency relative to standards
14	contained in an energy code, such as those developed by the residential
15	energy services network or any successor organization.
16	(8) "Qualified homebuyer" means a person that has entered into
17	a sales contract to purchase highly efficient new residential construction
18	and will be selling the person's existing residence in order to purchase the
19	highly efficient new residential construction as the person's primary
20	<del>residence.</del>
21	(9) "Recognized green building rating system" means a system of
22	rules for comparing the performance of a whole building or building
23	system to the energy code, to a problem, or to a test case that serves as a
24	basis for evaluation or comparison. "Recognized green building rating
25	system" includes, but is not limited to:
26	(a) The federal energy star program, jointly operated by the United

States environmental protection agency and the United States department

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1	of energy, of its successor program,
2	(b) The January 2008 version, or any successor standard, of the
3	"LEED for Homes Rating System" administered by the United States
4	green building council or its successor organization;
5	(c) The national green building standard, commonly cited as
6	ANSI/ICC 700-2008, established by the national association of home
7	builders and the international council code, or any successor standard; and
8	(d) Energy audits that are performed by the electric utility, or its
9	designee, providing service to the residence.
10	24-38.5-203. Green building incentive pilot program.
11	(1) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of subsection (9) of this section,
12	the Colorado energy office shall establish and administer a green building
13	incentive pilot program in accordance with the requirements established
14	in this part 2.
15	(2) (a) A qualified homebuyer may submit an application,
16	provided by the Colorado energy office, to the Colorado energy office for
17	a grant to make energy efficiency improvements to the homebuyer's
18	existing residence that the homebuyer is selling in preparation for
19	purchasing a highly efficient new residential construction.
20	(b) The Colorado energy office shall award a larger grant to a
21	qualified homebuyer with an existing residence that has a home energy
22	rating or home energy audit showing greater inefficiency.
23	(3) The energy efficiency improvements shall be performed by
24	contractors approved by the Colorado energy office as specified in
25	subsection (6) of this section.
26	(4) The Colorado energy office shall require the qualified
27	homebuyer to submit documentation:

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1	(a) That the home energy rating of the qualified homebuyer's
2	existing residence is below the energy code's requirements;
3	(b) That the qualified homebuyer has entered into a sales contract
4	to purchase a highly efficient new residential construction;
5	(c) Of the estimated completion date of the qualified homebuyer's
6	highly efficient new residential construction;
7	(d) Of the name or names of the contractors that will perform the
8	energy efficiency improvements on the existing residence; and
9	(e) That the highly efficient new residential construction meets the
10	definition specified in section 24-38.5-202 (5). The qualified homebuyer
11	may seek such documentation from the home builder, who may then
12	submit the documentation on behalf of the qualified homebuyer.
13	(5) Energy efficiency improvements made to an existing residence
14	shall be completed in a manner that is consistent with a home energy
15	rating or a home energy audit, and shall result in improved energy
16	efficiency. Retrofits and upgrades to improve the energy efficiency of a
17	qualified homebuyer's existing residence shall be completed before the
18	closing of the sale of the residence.
19	(6) The Colorado energy office shall create a list of contractors
20	eligible to perform energy efficiency improvements to a qualified
21	homebuyer's existing residence.
22	(7) In order to confirm that the qualified homebuyer met the
23	requirements of the pilot program, the qualified homebuyer shall submit
24	to the Colorado energy office copies of closing documentation for the
25	highly efficient new residential construction no later than thirty days after
26	the construction is complete. If construction is delayed and not completed
27	by the estimated completion date, the Colorado energy office may grant

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a waiver or extension for submission of this documentation.

- (8) If the purchase of the highly efficient new residential construction is not finalized for any reason, including but not limited to the cancellation of the sale by the qualified homebuyer or the failure of the qualified homebuyer to secure financing, the qualified homebuyer shall reimburse the total amount of the grant to the Colorado energy office within thirty days after such cancellation or failure.
- (9) (a) Funding for the pilot program shall be provided from federal funds transferred to the Colorado energy office that the Colorado energy office has already received prior to August 10, 2011, or may receive after August 10, 2011. The Colorado energy office may require additional documentation or information from the qualified homebuyer as required to secure any additional federal funds.
- (b) The Colorado energy office shall not establish the pilot program set forth in this part 2 if federal funds are not available.

**SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 39-27-109.7 as follows:

**39-27-109.7. Data collection services.** In order to track the movement of gasoline or special fuel within this state and thereby facilitate and expedite the collection of excise taxes imposed pursuant to this part 1, the executive director of the department of revenue may enter into a contract with one or more private entities for the provision of a computer-based program to monitor and track the data that licensees are required to report to the department pursuant to this part 1. Such computer-based program shall be funded solely with moneys from the highway users tax fund. except that, for the state fiscal year 2009-10, up

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to thirty-seven thousand six hundred thirty dollars for the computer-based
program to monitor and track exempt dyed diesel fuel that is blended with
biodiesel fuel after withdrawal at a terminal rack or refinery rack pursuant
to section 39-27-102.5 (2) (a) may be funded by moneys received by the
governor's energy office created in section 24-38.5-101, C.R.S., as said
office existed prior to July 1, 2012, from the United States department of
energy. The department shall update the computer-based program to
monitor and track the data that liquefied petroleum licensees are required
to report to the department pursuant to this part 1 based on the changes in
House Bill 15-1228, enacted in 2015.
SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-3-228, amend (2)
and (3) as follows:
42-3-228. Special plates - Colorado carbon fund. (2) The
Colorado carbon fund established by the Colorado energy office, may
design the Colorado carbon fund special license plates. The design for the
special license plates shall conform with standards established by the
department and shall be subject to the department's approval.
(3) A person may apply for the Colorado carbon fund special
license plates if the person pays the taxes and fees required under this
section and provides to the department or an authorized agent a
certificate, issued by the Colorado energy office, or a successor office,
${\tt NATURALCAPITALISMSOLUTIONS, A501(c)(3)NONPROFITORGANIZATION,}$
confirming that such person has made to the Colorado carbon fund, or its
successor, the donation required to qualify for the special license plates.
<b>SECTION 9.</b> In Colorado Revised Statutes, 29-4-226, <b>amend</b> (1)
introductory portion as follows:

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1	29-4-226. Exemption from special assessments. (1) The
2	following shall be exempt from the payment of any special assessments
3	to the state, any county, city and county, municipality, or other political
4	subdivision of the state, except for assessments issued under part $1$
5	OF ARTICLE 20 OF TITLE 32:
6	SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 32-20-105, amend
7	(3) introductory portion as follows:
8	32-20-105. District - purpose - general powers and duties -
9	<b>new energy improvement program.</b> (3) The district shall establish,
10	develop, finance, and administer a new energy improvement program.
11	However, the district may conduct the program within any given county
12	only if the board of county commissioners of the county has adopted a
13	resolution authorizing the district to conduct the program within the
14	county. If a county adopts a resolution authorizing the district to conduct
15	the program within the county, the county treasurer shall retain a
16	collection fee as specified in section 30-1-102 (1)(c) C.R.S., for each
17	special assessment that it collects as part of the program. The board of
18	county commissioners of any county that has adopted a resolution
19	authorizing the district to conduct the program within the county may
20	subsequently adopt a resolution deauthorizing the district from
21	conducting the program within the county. However, if the county adopts
22	a deauthorizing resolution, the county shall continue to meet all of its
23	obligations under this article ARTICLE 20 as to program financing
24	obligations existing on the effective date of the deauthorization until any
25	and all special assessments within the county have been paid in full and
26	remitted to the district. The district shall design the program to allow an
27	owner of eligible real property to apply to join the district, receive

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reimbursement or a direct payment from the district, and consent to the levying of a special assessment on the eligible real property specially benefited by a new energy improvement for which the district makes reimbursement or a direct payment. The district shall establish an application process for the program that allows an owner of eligible real property to become a qualified applicant by submitting an application to the district and that may include one or more deadlines for the filing of an application. EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 32-20-111, the application process must require the applicant to submit with the application a commitment of title insurance issued by a duly licensed Colorado title insurance company within thirty days before the date the application is submitted. The district may charge program application fees. In order to administer the program, the district, acting directly or through a program administrator or other agents, employees, or professionals as the district may appoint, hire, retain, or contract with, may aggregate qualified applicants into one or more bond issues and shall:

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**SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 32-20-106, **amend** (3)(a) introductory portion as follows:

**32-20-106.** Special assessments - determination of special benefits - notice and hearing requirements - certification of assessment roll - manner of collection. (3) (a) The district may levy a special assessment against eligible real property specially benefited by a new energy improvement based on the cost to the district of the new energy improvement. The district shall initiate the levy of any special assessment by the adoption of a resolution of the board that sets the special assessment, approves the preparation of a preliminary special assessment roll, and sets a date for a public hearing regarding the special

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1	assessment ron. The district shall prepare a preliminary special
2	assessment roll listing all special assessments to be levied. The district
3	may post notice of the hearing on the special assessment on any district
4	internet website and shall, EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 32-20-111,
5	send notice that the special assessment roll has been completed and notice
6	of a hearing on the special assessment roll no later than thirty days before
7	the hearing date to:
8	SECTION 12. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 32-20-111 as
9	follows:
10	32-20-111. Procedure if lien subordination not sought. THE
11	PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 20 PERTAINING TO THE REQUIREMENT OF
12	TITLE INSURANCE CONTAINED IN SECTION 32-20-105 (3) AND THE
13	PROVISION OF NOTICE, OBJECTION, AND APPEAL CONTAINED IN SECTION
14	32-20-106 (3)(a)(I), (3)(a)(II), (3)(b), AND (3)(c), AND ALL SECTIONS
15	REFERENCING THESE SECTIONS, DO NOT APPLY TO RESIDENTIAL ELIGIBLE
16	REAL PROPERTY IF THE PROPERTY OWNER OR PRIVATE THIRD PARTY THAT
17	<u>IS FINANCING THE IMPROVEMENTS ARE</u> NOT SEEKING TO SUBORDINATE THE
18	PRIORITY OF EXISTING MORTGAGES PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-20-105
19	(3)(i).
20	
21	SECTION 13. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds
22	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
23	preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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