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State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



2013 SENATE BILL 699

April 3, 2014 - Introduced by Senators Vinehout and Lassa, cosponsored by Representatives Wright, Berceau, Bewley, Danou, Jorgensen, Pope and Shankland. Referred to Committee on Government Operations, Public Works, and Telecommunications.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- AN ACT to renumber and amend 16.27 (4) (a); to amend 16.27 (6); and to create 16.27 (1) (eg) and 16.27 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes; relating to: heating assistance for propane used for home heating.
 - Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Administration (DOA) administers a program to provide heating assistance to eligible households. "Heating assistance" is defined as a benefit given to a household to assist in meeting the cost of home heating. Current law allows households to apply for heating assistance after September 30 and before May 16 of any year. This bill allows a household to apply at anytime during the year if the heating assistance is for propane used for home heating. Also, the bill requires DOA to ensure that heating assistance for propane used for home heating is available at times when market conditions reduce propane prices.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 16.27 (1) (eg) of the statutes is created to read:

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1	16.27 (1) (eg) "Propane heating assistance" means heating assistance to assist
2	in meeting the cost of propane used in home heating.
3	Section 2. 16.27 (4) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 16.27 (4) (a) 1. and
4	amended to read:
5	16.27 (4) (a) 1. A Except as provided in subd. 2., a household may apply after
6	September 30 and before May 16 of any year for heating assistance from the county
7	department under s. $46.215\ (1)\ (n)$ or $46.22\ (1)\ (b)$ 4m. a. to e. or from another local
8	governmental agency or a private nonprofit organization with which the department
9	contracts to administer the heating assistance program, and shall have the
10	opportunity to do so on a form prescribed by the department for that purpose.
11	Section 3. 16.27 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes is created to read:
12	16.27 (4) (a) 2. A household may make an application under subd. 1. for propane
13	heating assistance at any time during a year.
14	Section 4. 16.27 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:
15	16.27 (6) BENEFITS. Within the limits of federal funds allocated under sub. (3)
16	and subject to the requirements of sub. (4) (b) and s. 16.54 (2) (b), heating assistance
17	shall be paid under this section according to a benefit schedule established by the
18	department based on household income, family size, and energy costs. The
19	department shall ensure that propane heating assistance is available at times when
20	market conditions reduce propane prices.

(END)