

CONFIDENTIAL
LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW FORM: 2015

Bill Number: _____ H.136 _____ **Name of Bill:** An act relating to residential building energy standards for rental multi-unit residential buildings

Agency/ Dept AHS / DCF / OEO Author of Bill Review: Paul Dragon

Date of Bill Review: 2/10/15 **Related Bills:** H 119 **Key players include:** Private and Public Landlords, Department of Public Service, LIHEAP, Low-Income Advocates , Energy Assistance Groups, Weatherization Assistance Programs (WAP)

Status of Bill: (check one): ☒ **Upon Introduction** ☐ **As passed by 1st body** ☐ **As passed by both**

Recommended Position:

☒ **Support** ☐ **Oppose** ☐ **Remain Neutral** ☐ **Support with modifications identified in #8 below**

Analysis of Bill

1. Summary of bill and issue it addresses. *Describe what the bill is intended to accomplish and why.*

This bill proposes to apply the residential building energy standards to existing residential buildings containing four or more rental residential units where tenants are required to pay for heat.

2. Is there a need for this bill? *Please explain why or why not.*

Yes. This would ensure that tenants paying for heat are living in residential units that are up to energy standards. This is particularly important for low-income residents who spend a high percentage of their income on heat.

3. What are likely to be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for this Department?

None

4. What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for other departments in state government, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?

None

5. What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for others, and what is likely to be their perspective on it? (for example, public, municipalities, organizations, business, regulated entities, etc)

Landlords may complain that their costs will increase significantly if they need to come up to the residential building code. They may say this will take more low-income units offline or that they will be forced to increase rents to cover the costs of meeting the standard.

6. Other Stakeholders:

6.1 Who else is likely to support the proposal and why?

Department of Public Service authors the residential building standards and will probably favor this. Low-income advocates will most likely favor this bill. Weatherization Assistance Programs will most likely favor this bill.

6.2 Who else is likely to oppose the proposal and why?

Public and private landlords whose buildings are not up to code. They will say this is too expensive and is too much of a burden.

7. Rationale for recommendation: *Justify recommendation stated above.*

This act will decrease the fuel burden on low-income people who pay for heat.

8. Specific modifications that would be needed to recommend support of this bill: *Not meant to rewrite bill, but rather, an opportunity to identify simple modifications that would change recommended position.*

None

9. Gubernatorial appointments to board or commission?

Secretary/Commissioner has reviewed this document: _____ *Date:* _____