

HOUSE BILL NO. 323

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES TAMMIE WILSON, Thompson

Introduced: 2/17/12

Referred: House Special Committee on Energy, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the Alaska energy efficient home grant fund; and creating a grant
2 program for converting homes in regions designated as particulate matter
3 nonattainment areas to efficient home heating systems."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** AS 18.56.410(b) is amended to read:

6 (b) Subject to appropriation, the corporation **shall** [MAY] grant funds from
7 the Alaska energy efficient home grant fund to **the owner of a home within a region**
8 **designated as a particulate matter nonattainment area and otherwise eligible**
9 **under this section for the purpose of converting to an efficient home heating**
10 **system. A homeowner is not eligible for a grant under this section if the**
11 **homeowner is eligible for an energy efficiency and weatherization program grant**
12 **under AS 18.56.850 that is limited to low or moderate income households. To**
13 **qualify for a grant under this section, an eligible homeowner shall obtain an**
14 **energy audit performed by an energy rater approved under regulations adopted**

1 by the corporation. The cost of the audit shall be borne by the homeowner. The
 2 energy rater shall, under regulations adopted by the corporation, perform an
 3 inspection of the home and prepare a written estimate of the cost of converting an
 4 existing heating method to an efficient home heating system. The amount of the
 5 grant may not exceed the lesser of the cost of converting to an efficient home
 6 heating system, as estimated by an energy rater under this subsection, or \$10,000.
 7 A home is eligible for a grant under this section if it is a substantially complete
 8 owner-occupied single family dwelling or duplex used as a permanent residence
 9 by the grant applicant, as determined by the corporation, is located in a region
 10 designated as a particulate matter nonattainment area in the state, and meets
 11 other requirements that may be adopted under (c) of this section. Not more than
 12 25 percent of the gross floor area of the building for which a grant is received
 13 may be devoted to commercial use. An eligible home does not include a home

14 (1) that is to be destroyed, abandoned, or converted to another
 15 purpose within 12 months after an energy audit is performed under this
 16 subsection;

17 (2) that has an existing heating oil device designated by the United
 18 States Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable
 19 Energy, to have a rating of greater than or equal to 80 percent annual fuel
 20 utilization efficiency or has as an existing heating method a wood stove listed as a
 21 Certified Wood Stove by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; or

22 (3) for which a grant was previously received under this section
 23 [AGENCIES OF THE STATE OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, INDIVIDUALS,
 24 OR BUSINESSES THAT RETROFIT EXISTING SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS
 25 OR BUILD NEW SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS THAT MEET CRITERIA
 26 ADOPTED BY THE CORPORATION].

27 * **Sec. 2.** AS 18.56.410(c) is amended to read:

28 (c) The corporation shall adopt guidelines and procedures for the fund **and**
 29 **may adopt additional eligibility requirements for grants made under this section;**
 30 **however, the corporation may not attach income limits for homeowners who**
 31 **apply for a grant under this section.**

1 * **Sec. 3.** AS 18.56.410 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

2 (d) In this section,

3 (1) "efficient home heating system" means a

4 (A) furnace or boiler designated by the United States
5 Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to
6 have a rating of greater than or equal to 80 percent annual fuel utilization
7 efficiency; or

8 (B) wood stove listed as a Certified Wood Stove by the United
9 States Environmental Protection Agency;

10 (2) "particulate matter nonattainment area" means a region designated
11 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a particulate matter (PM
12 2.5) nonattainment area under the most current standard.

13 * **Sec. 4.** AS 18.56.850 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 (c) A homeowner that has received a grant under AS 18.56.410(b) for an
15 efficient home heating system is not eligible for a grant under (a) of this section,
16 regardless of whether the homeowner has moved to a home that is not the same home
17 for which the grant was received under AS 18.56.410(b).