

**HB**

**197**

<TARGET><BILL>HB 197</BILL><SUBJECT>HB  
197</SUBJECT><COMM>HENE27</COMM></TARGET>

# Alaska State Legislature

*Session:*  
State Capitol Rm. 421  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone: (907) 465-3438  
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*Interim:*  
716 W 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133  
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## Representative Lance Pruitt

Co-Chair, House Energy Committee

### Sponsor Statement

#### **HB 197(ENE) HOME ENERGY RATING SYSTEM**

Non-governmental third parties are currently attempting to get themselves identified in federal legislation as the Home Energy Rating System verifying agency. They would control state policy on this issue and compete for federal funds that could be available to the states, and could come through the states. Based on the investment that Alaska has made through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) in developing its own Home Energy Rating System, it seems appropriate that Alaska should run the program, not a non-governmental third party.

HB 197 authorizes the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) to act as the authorizing agency relative to approving any Home Energy Rating System (HERS) to be utilized in the state. This will enable AHFC to ensure that any HERS utilized in Alaska is appropriate for Alaska climates. In addition, AHFC would be able to verify appropriate software for national recognition. The HERS is directly related to measuring a home's ability to meet the Building Energy Efficiency Standards (BEES), which are required by state law.

# LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450  
FAX (907) 465-2029  
Mail Stop 3101


State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

## MEMORANDUM

March 17, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Sectional Summary (Work Order No. 27-LS0628\A)

**TO:** Representative Lance Pruitt  
Attn: Jeremiah Campbell

**FROM:** Lisa Moritz Kirsch   
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

**Section 1.** Designates the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation as the authorizing agency to approve any home energy rating system used in Alaska, and includes a legislative finding that recognition of the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation as Alaska's authorizing agency serves a public purpose in benefiting the people of Alaska.

**Section 2.** Provides an effective date of July 1, 2011.

LMK:plm  
11-162.plm

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## Representative Lance Pruitt

Co-Chair, House Energy Committee

### Summary of Changes from HB 197 Version A to CSHB 197(FIN) Version B

#### HB 197

#### Home Energy Rating Systems

Changed “may” to “shall” on page 1 line 9. This change was made to clearly define AHFC’s scope of responsibility.

Removed “any” from page 1 line 9. There was concern that having “any” in the bill would put homebuilders, who used a system that wasn’t approved, in violation of the law.

Changed “system” to “systems” on page 1 line 10. This was done to imply that more than one system may be approved for use in the state.

27-LS0628\B  
Kirsch  
4/1/11

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 197(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE PRUITT

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act recognizing the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation as the authorizing agency**  
2 **to approve home energy rating systems for the state; and providing for an effective**  
3 **date."**

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

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 18.56.010 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (h) The legislature finds that recognizing the Alaska Housing Finance  
7 Corporation as the state's home energy rating system authorizing agency serves a  
8 public purpose in benefitting the people of the state. The Alaska Housing Finance  
9 Corporation shall act as the authorizing agency for purposes of approving home  
10 energy rating systems used in the state.

11 \* **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2011.

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version HB197  
 () Publish Date \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier (file name) HB197-DOR-AHFC-03-24-11 Dept. Affected Revenue  
 Title Home Energy Rating System Appropriation Alaska Housing Finance Corp.  
 Allocation AHFC Operations  
 Sponsor Representative Pruitt  
 Requester House Special Committee on Energy OMB Component Number 110

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>							
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants							
Miscellaneous							
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>							
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>							
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (please identify)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

initial version

Prepared by Cary Bolling, Officer Governmental Relations  
 Division Alaska Housing Finance Corporation  
 Approved by Dan Fauske, CEO  
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

Phone 907-350-2479  
 Date/Time 3/24/11 1:30 PM  
 Date 3/24/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB197

**Analysis**

HB 197 recognizes Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) as the authorizing agency to approve home energy rating systems (HERS) utilized in Alaska.

AHFC currently has its own AkWarm home energy rating system and software that has been in use, and continuously updated, since 1996. It is specifically designed for Alaska and is recognized by the Alaska building, real estate and home loan industries and is directly tied to AHFC programs, including the Home Energy Rebate and Weatherization programs, interest rate reductions for home loans and Alaska Building Energy Efficiency Standards. The software is available to all at no cost.

In the event that another home energy rating system is submitted to AHFC for approval, that software will require review and testing to ensure Alaska's varied and extreme climatic conditions are appropriately addressed and compatible with AkWarm. The cost of testing and review is expected to be covered by the requestor and U.S. Department of Energy funds. As a result, there is no fiscal impact to AHFC anticipated for this bill.



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March 28, 2011

The Honorable Neal Foster, Co-Chair  
House Special Committee on Energy  
Alaska Capitol, Room 434  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Lance Pruitt, Co-Chair  
House Special Committee on Energy  
Alaska Capitol, Room 421  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 197 (Pruitt)—Support

Dear Co-Chairs Foster and Pruitt:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House Special Committee on Energy to support HB 197, sponsored by Co-Chair Pruitt.

AARP supported the expansion of the home energy program authored by Senator Hoffman and carried out over the past several years by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. At that time we called the legislation "historic" for the impact it would have on the wallets of our members as well as Alaskans of all ages.

Since that time, we have heard nothing but extremely positive comments from Alaskans who are now saving significant amounts of money on their utility bills and all of us can be proud of the energy being saved by Alaskans who have had their homes audited by a rater and then complied with their recommendations.

AHFC developed a cadre of trained raters and a system that could be used statewide for accurate ratings. This is a system that works well and has been used by thousands of Alaskans in every part of our state.

HB 197 would officially recognize AHFC as our home energy rating system authorizing agency.

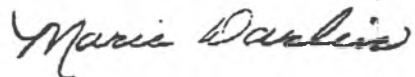
We know that citizens often complain about "the government." We don't know anyone who complains about AHFC and the good work they have done on weatherization and home energy savings. AHFC serves, in AARP's opinion, as an agency that has its act together. They know their mission and they know how to accomplish it.

AARP requests an "AYE" vote on HB 197.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Marie Darlin, Coordinator  
AARP Capital City Task Force  
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506  
Juneau, AK 99801  
586-3637 (voice)  
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Representative Lynn  
Representative Olson  
Representative Saddler  
Representative Peterson  
Representative Tuck  
Senator Hoffman



**ALASKA STATE  
HOMEBUILDERS ASSOCIATION**

March 31, 2011

Representative Pruitt  
State Capital Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re; Support of HB-197

Representative Pruitt

On behalf of the ASHBA (Alaska State Home Building Association) we write you this letter stating our support for HB-197 (Home Energy Rating System).

The ASHBA is an organization that works and operates in the private sector of the construction industry. The association currently has 700 plus members working and operating throughout the State.

We feel it is the appropriate time for the introduction and passage of HB-197. We feel this bill will assist the construction community as well as the public in establishing good energy standards for our state.

We appreciate you taking the time to sponsor this legislation and if you need help through testimony or other please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you,

Dave Owens  
President  
ASHBA

Alan Wilson  
Co-Chair  
Legislative Committee

Paul Michelsohn Jr.  
Co-Chair  
Legislative Committee



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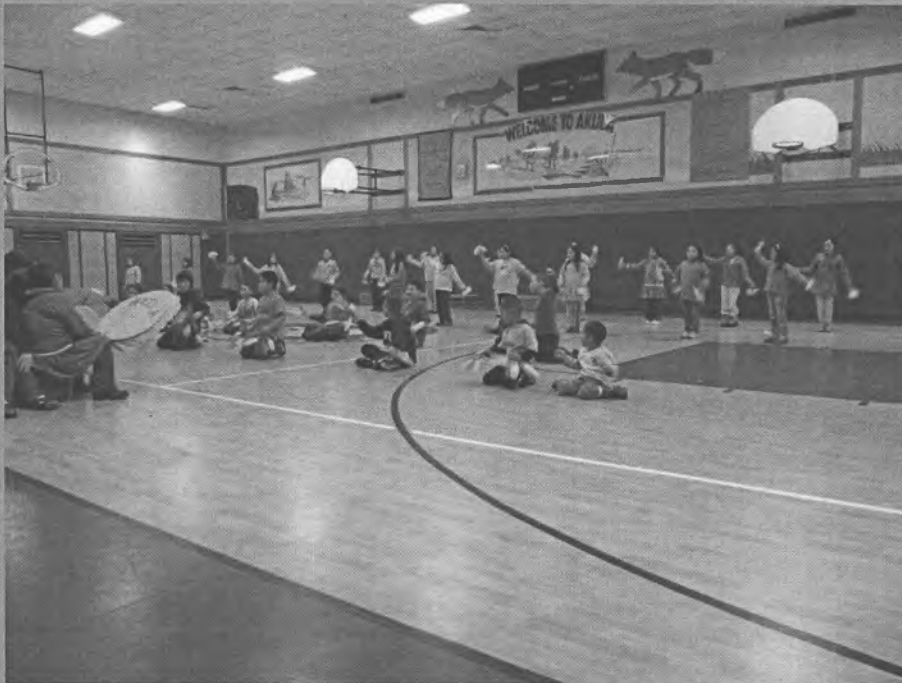
Energy presentations



Involving Youth

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Tribal Council
- City Council
- School
- Church Group
- AmeriCorps/VISTA
- Youth Groups
- Parks and Recreation
- Other Energy Projects

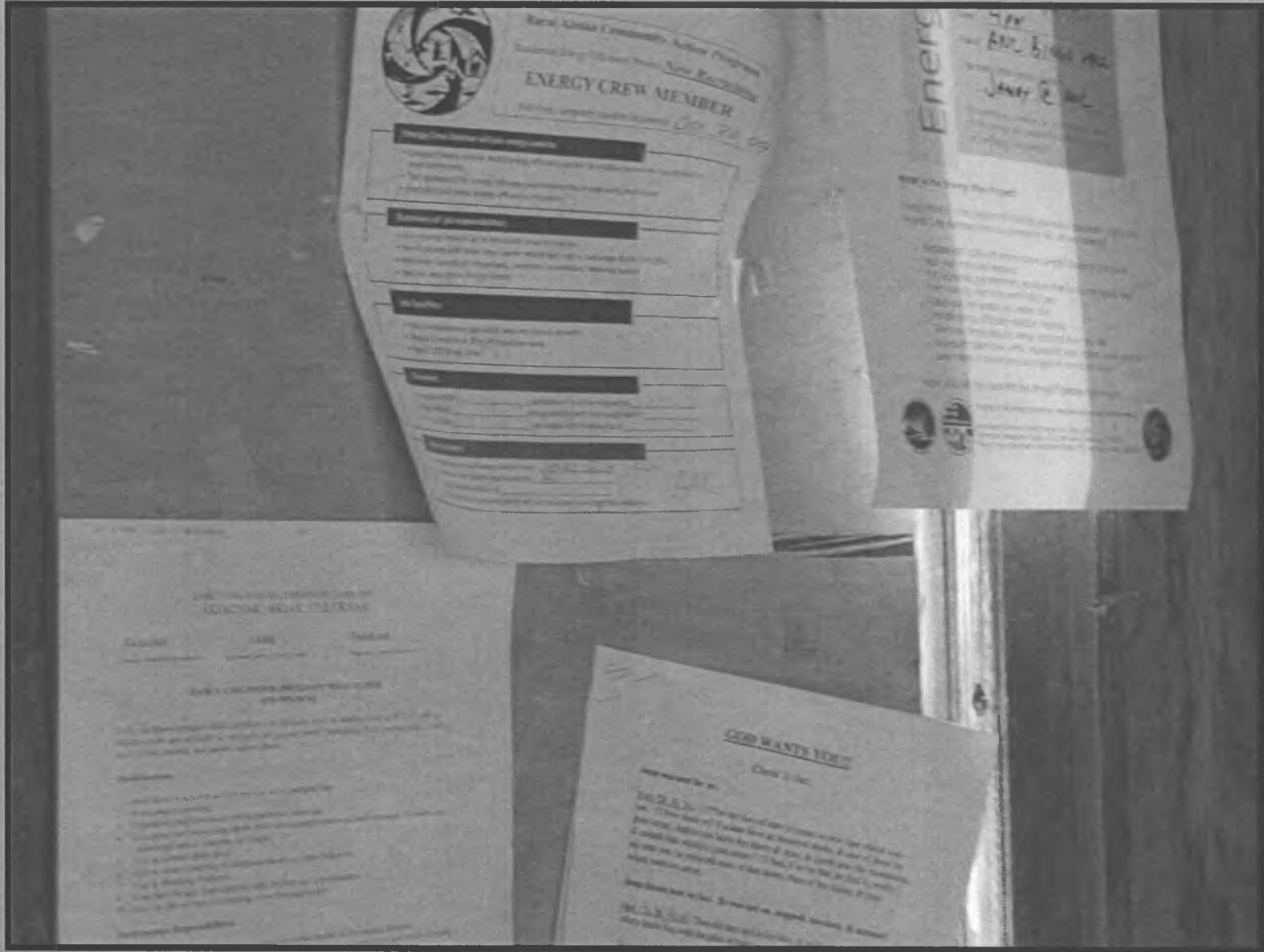




Freight arrives



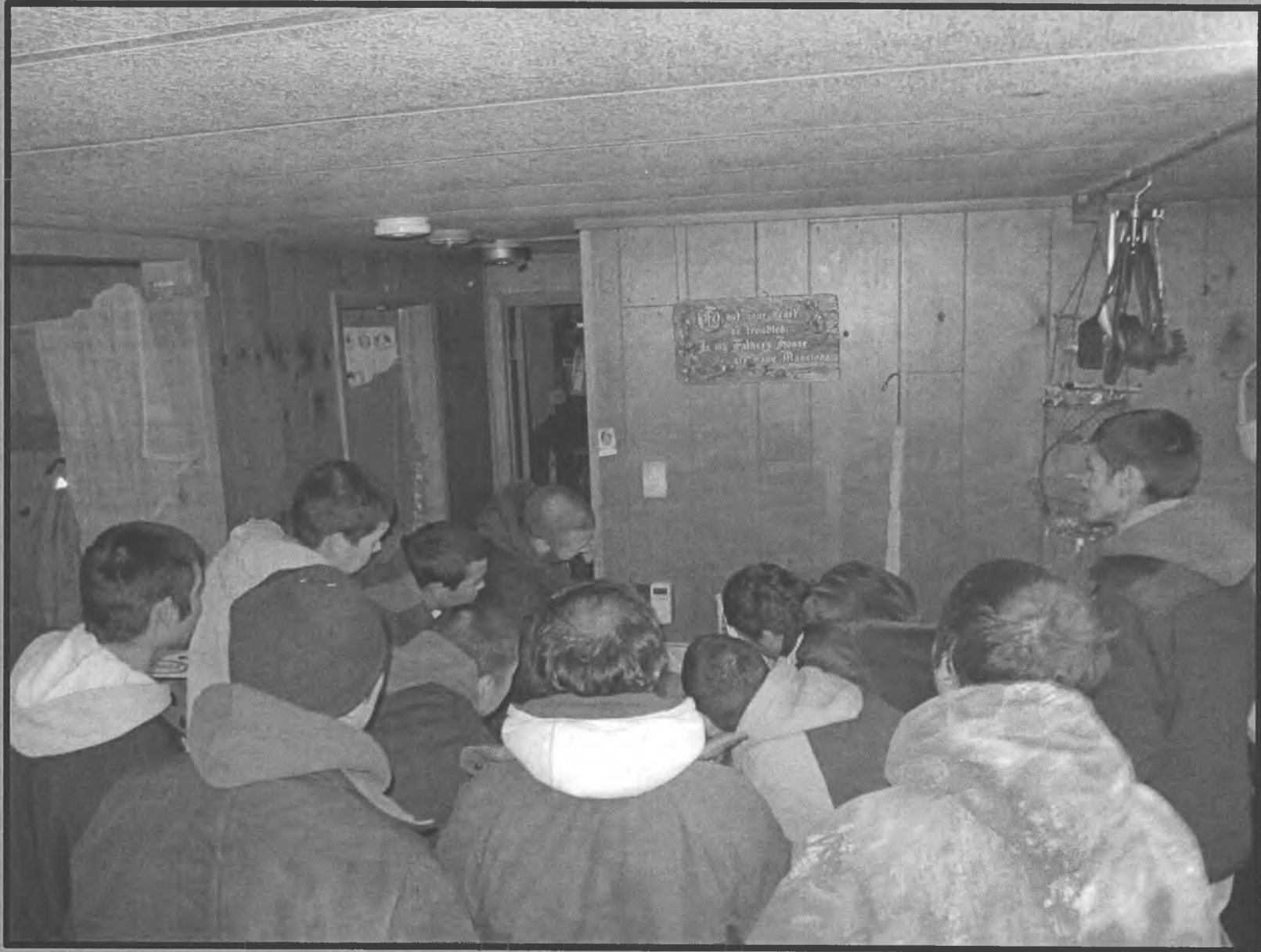
Organized storage



Local Recruitment of Crew



Crew getting tools



Hands-on training – Kill-a-Watt meter



Crews Learn How to Read Energy Bills, Calculate Costs



Crew Leaders Teach Crews and Practice Installation



Home Visits Begin



Residents Participate in Energy Use Survey



Crews Show Residents How to Save Energy and Money



Crews Review Energy Bills with Residents



Crews Test Appliances with Kill-a-Watt Meters