

SENATE FILE 2084

1 Amend Senate File 2084 as follows:

2 1. By striking everything after the enacting
3 clause and inserting the following:

4 "Section 1. NEW SECTION. 216A.104 HEALTH RISK
5 UTILITY DISCONNECTION PILOT PROGRAM.

6 1. The division shall establish a health risk
7 utility disconnection pilot program for the purpose of
8 prohibiting the disconnection of gas or electricity
9 service to a household with a resident who would
10 suffer a health risk upon such disconnection as
11 certified by a community action agency. The division
12 shall, with assistance from the Iowa department of
13 public health, establish rules which shall be uniform
14 with respect to all public utilities furnishing gas or
15 electricity for a community action agency to certify a
16 resident of a household as eligible under the health
17 risk utility disconnection pilot program. This
18 subsection applies both to regulated utilities and to
19 municipally owned utilities and unincorporated
20 villages which own their own distribution systems.

21 2. A community action agency may certify one or
22 more residents of a household under this section if
23 one or more residents of the household meet all of the
24 following requirements:

25 a. The resident of the household is either under
26 the age of six or at least sixty-five years of age.

27 b. The resident would suffer a health risk if gas
28 or electricity was disconnected from the household of
29 the resident.

30 c. The income of the household of the resident is
31 less than two hundred percent of the federal poverty
32 level as defined by the most recently revised poverty
33 income guidelines published by the United States
34 department of health and human services.

35 d. The head of the household, or other household
36 member approved by the community action agency, has
37 successfully completed an assessment and resolution
38 program provided by a community action agency pursuant
39 to subsection 4.

40 3. The community action agency may request
41 assistance from the Iowa department of public health
42 when determining whether a resident would suffer from
43 a health risk if gas or electricity was disconnected
44 from the resident's household, when establishing
45 priorities for participation, and when determining
46 whether to certify a resident of a household.

47 4. The division shall establish an assessment and
48 resolution program to be administered by each
49 community action agency to certify a resident under
50 the health risk utility disconnection pilot program.

1 A head of household, or other approved member, may
2 complete an assessment and resolution program by
3 meeting all of the following requirements:
4 a. Provide the community action agency with the
5 household's gas or electricity account and payment
6 history including any previous reasonable payment plan
7 agreements. The community action agency shall assist
8 the household in negotiating a reasonable payment plan
9 which may include a minimum payment amount under the
10 plan.
11 b. Participate in financial budgeting counseling
12 provided by a community action agency.
13 c. Participate in energy conservation education
14 provided by a community action agency.
15 d. Complete a needs assessment conducted by a
16 community action agency and comply with the
17 recommendations of the assessment.
18 e. Complete a report of any uncollectible moneys
19 of the household's gas or electric account balance
20 which shall be provided to the public utility to which
21 the balance is owed.
22 5. For the purposes of this section, "head of
23 household" means the same as defined in section 422.4,
24 subsection 7.
25 Sec. 2. Section 476.20, subsection 3, Code 2005,
26 is amended by adding the following new unnumbered
27 paragraph:
28 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Notwithstanding
29 subsection 1, a public utility furnishing gas or
30 electricity shall not disconnect service to a
31 residence that is a household with a resident who
32 would suffer a health risk upon such disconnection, as
33 certified under the health risk utility disconnection
34 pilot program under section 216A.104. A public
35 utility that incurs a monetary loss from a failure to
36 pay for gas or electricity services because of the
37 continuation of such services required by this
38 paragraph may claim a tax credit under section 422.33,
39 subsection 20. Section 476.51 shall not apply to a
40 violation of this unnumbered paragraph.
41 Sec. 3. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION -- LOW-INCOME
42 HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE. There is appropriated from
43 the general fund of the state to the division of
44 community action agencies of the department of human
45 rights for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005, and
46 ending June 30, 2006, the following amount, or so much
47 thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes
48 designated:
49 For supplementation of the low-income home energy
50 assistance appropriation made in 2005 Iowa Acts,

1 chapter 164, section 10, to be used to help eligible
2 households meet home energy costs in accordance with
3 2005 Iowa Acts, chapter 164, section 10, subsection 4,
4 and none of the following amount shall be used for
5 administrative expenses:

6 \$ 2,000,000

7 Sec. 4. APPROPRIATION -- DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
8 RIGHTS. There is appropriated from the general fund
9 of the state to the division of community action
10 agencies of the department of human rights for the
11 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June
12 30, 2007, the following amount, or so much thereof as
13 is necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

14 For the administration and support of the health
15 risk utility disconnection pilot program created under
16 section 216A.104, including salaries, support,
17 maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes:

18 \$ 500,000

19 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
20 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment."

21 2. Title page, by striking lines 3 and 4 and
22 inserting the following: "risk, making appropriations
23 and providing an effective date."

24 3. By renumbering as necessary.

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28 PROPOSED COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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