



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 1352***

LCO No. 4862



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:  
(ET)

***AN ACT PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 16a-48 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Department" means the Department of Energy and  
5 Environmental Protection;

6 (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Energy and  
7 Environmental Protection;

8 (3) "State Building Code" means the building code adopted pursuant  
9 to section 29-252;

10 [(2)] (4) "Fluorescent lamp ballast" or "ballast" means a device  
11 designed to operate fluorescent lamps by providing a starting voltage  
12 and current and limiting the current during normal operation, but does  
13 not include such devices that have a dimming capability or are intended

14 for use in ambient temperatures of zero degrees Fahrenheit or less or  
15 have a power factor of less than sixty-one hundredths for a single  
16 F40T12 lamp;

17 [(3)] (5) "F40T12 lamp" means a tubular fluorescent lamp that is a  
18 nominal forty-watt lamp, with a forty-eight-inch tube length and one  
19 and one-half inches in diameter;

20 [(4) "F96T12 lamp" means a tubular fluorescent lamp that is a nominal  
21 seventy-five-watt lamp with a ninety-six-inch tube length and one and  
22 one-half inches in diameter;

23 (5) "Luminaire" means a complete lighting unit consisting of a  
24 fluorescent lamp, or lamps, together with parts designed to distribute  
25 the light, to position and protect such lamps, and to connect such lamps  
26 to the power supply;

27 (6) "New product" means a product that is sold, offered for sale, or  
28 installed for the first time and specifically includes floor models and  
29 demonstration units;

30 (7) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Energy and  
31 Environmental Protection;

32 (8) "State Building Code" means the building code adopted pursuant  
33 to section 29-252;]

34 [(9)] (6) "Torchiere lighting fixture" means a portable electric lighting  
35 fixture with a reflector bowl giving light directed upward [so as] to give  
36 indirect illumination;

37 [(10) "Unit heater" means a self-contained, vented fan-type  
38 commercial space heater that uses natural gas or propane and that is  
39 designed to be installed without ducts within the heated space. "Unit  
40 heater" does not include a product regulated by federal standards  
41 pursuant to 42 USC 6291, as amended from time to time, a product that  
42 is a direct vent, forced flue heater with a sealed combustion burner, or

43 any oil fired heating system;

44 (11) "Transformer" means a device consisting of two or more coils of  
45 insulated wire that transfers alternating current by electromagnetic  
46 induction from one coil to another in order to change the original  
47 voltage or current value;

48 (12) "Low-voltage dry-type transformer" means a transformer that:  
49 (A) Has an input voltage of six hundred volts or less; (B) is between  
50 fourteen kilovolt-amperes and two thousand five hundred one kilovolt-  
51 amperes in size; (C) is air-cooled; and (D) does not use oil as a coolant.  
52 "Low-voltage dry-type transformer" does not include such transformers  
53 excluded from the low-voltage dry-type distribution transformer  
54 definition contained in the California Code of Regulations, Title 20:  
55 Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4: Appliance Efficiency Regulations;

56 (13) "Pass-through cabinet" means a refrigerator or freezer with  
57 hinged or sliding doors on both the front and rear of the refrigerator or  
58 freezer;

59 (14) "Reach-in cabinet" means a refrigerator, freezer, or combination  
60 thereof, with hinged or sliding doors or lids;

61 (15) "Roll-in" or "roll-through cabinet" means a refrigerator or freezer  
62 with hinged or sliding doors that allows wheeled racks of product to be  
63 rolled into or through the refrigerator or freezer;

64 (16) "Commercial refrigerators and freezers" means reach-in cabinets,  
65 pass-through cabinets, roll-in cabinets and roll-through cabinets that  
66 have less than eighty-five feet of capacity, which are designed for the  
67 refrigerated or frozen storage of food and food products;

68 (17) "Traffic signal module" means a standard eight-inch or twelve-  
69 inch round traffic signal indicator consisting of a light source, lens and  
70 all parts necessary for operation and communication of movement  
71 messages to drivers through red, amber and green colors;

72 (18) "Illuminated exit sign" means an internally illuminated sign that  
73 is designed to be permanently fixed in place and used to identify an exit  
74 by means of a light source that illuminates the sign or letters from within  
75 where the background of the exit sign is not transparent;

76 (19) "Packaged air-conditioning equipment" means air-conditioning  
77 equipment that is built as a package and shipped as a whole to end-user  
78 sites;

79 (20) "Large packaged air-conditioning equipment" means air-cooled  
80 packaged air-conditioning equipment having not less than two hundred  
81 forty thousand BTUs per hour of capacity;

82 (21) "Commercial clothes washer" means a soft mount front-loading  
83 or soft mount top-loading clothes washer that is designed for use in (A)  
84 applications where the occupants of more than one household will be  
85 using it, such as in multifamily housing common areas and coin  
86 laundries; or (B) other commercial applications, if the clothes container  
87 compartment is no greater than three and one-half cubic feet for  
88 horizontal-axis clothes washers or no greater than four cubic feet for  
89 vertical-axis clothes washers;

90 (22) "Energy efficiency ratio" means a measure of the relative  
91 efficiency of a heating or cooling appliance that is equal to the unit's  
92 output in BTUs per hour divided by its consumption of energy,  
93 measured in watts;

94 (23) "Electricity ratio" means the ratio of furnace electricity use to total  
95 furnace energy use;

96 (24) "Boiler" means a space heater that is a self-contained appliance  
97 for supplying steam or hot water primarily intended for space-heating.  
98 "Boiler" does not include hot water supply boilers;

99 (25) "Central furnace" means a self-contained space heater designed  
100 to supply heated air through ducts of more than ten inches in length;

101 (26) "Residential furnace or boiler" means a product that utilizes only  
102 single-phase electric current or single-phase electric current or DC  
103 current in conjunction with natural gas, propane or home heating oil  
104 and that (A) is designed to be the principal heating source for the living  
105 space of a residence; (B) is not contained within the same cabinet as a  
106 central air conditioner with a rated cooling capacity of not less than  
107 sixty-five thousand BTUs per hour; (C) is an electric central furnace,  
108 electric boiler, forced-air central furnace, gravity central furnace or low  
109 pressure steam or hot water boiler; and (D) has a heat input rate of less  
110 than three hundred thousand BTUs per hour for an electric boiler and  
111 low pressure steam or hot water boiler and less than two hundred  
112 twenty-five thousand BTUs per hour for a forced-air central furnace,  
113 gravity central furnace and electric central furnace;

114 (27) "Furnace air handler" means the section of the furnace that  
115 includes the fan, blower and housing, generally upstream of the burners  
116 and heat exchanger. The furnace air handler may include a filter and a  
117 cooling coil;]

118 [(28)] (7) "High-intensity discharge lamp" means a lamp in which  
119 light is produced by the passage of an electric current through a vapor  
120 or gas, the light-producing arc is stabilized by bulb wall temperature  
121 and the arc tube has a bulb wall loading in excess of three watts per  
122 square centimeter;

123 [(29)] (8) "Metal halide lamp" means a high intensity discharge lamp  
124 in which the major portion of the light is produced by radiation of metal  
125 halides and their products of dissociation, possibly in combination with  
126 metallic vapors;

127 [(30)] (9) "Metal halide lamp fixture" means a light fixture designed  
128 to be operated with a metal halide lamp and a ballast for a metal halide  
129 lamp;

130 [(31)] (10) "Probe start metal halide ballast" means a ballast used to  
131 operate metal halide lamps that does not contain an ignitor and that

132 instead starts lamps by using a third starting electrode probe in the arc  
133 tube;

134 [(32) "Single voltage external AC to DC power supply" means a  
135 device that (A) is designed to convert line voltage AC input into lower  
136 voltage DC output; (B) is able to convert to only one DC output voltage  
137 at a time; (C) is sold with, or intended to be used with, a separate end  
138 use product that constitutes the primary power load; (D) is contained  
139 within a separate physical enclosure from the end use product; (E) is  
140 connected to the end use product in a removable or hard-wired male  
141 and female electrical connection, cable, cord or other wiring; (F) does  
142 not have batteries or battery packs, including those that are removable  
143 or that physically attach directly to the power supply unit; (G) does not  
144 have a battery chemistry or type selector switch and indicator light or a  
145 battery chemistry or type selector switch and a state of charge meter;  
146 and (H) has a nameplate output power less than or equal to two  
147 hundred fifty watts;]

148 [(33)] (11) "State regulated incandescent reflector lamp" means a lamp  
149 that is not colored or designed for rough or vibration service  
150 applications, has an inner reflective coating on the outer bulb to direct  
151 the light, has an E26 medium screw base, a rated voltage or voltage  
152 range that lies at least partially within one hundred fifteen to one  
153 hundred thirty volts, and that falls into one of the following categories:  
154 (A) A bulged reflector, [or] elliptical reflector or a blown PAR bulb shape  
155 [and] that has a diameter that equals or exceeds two and one-quarter  
156 inches, or (B) a reflector, parabolic aluminized reflector, bulged reflector  
157 or similar bulb shape [and] that has a diameter of two and one-quarter  
158 to two and three-quarters inches. "State regulated incandescent reflector  
159 lamp" does not include ER30, BR30, BR40 and ER40 lamps of not more  
160 than fifty watts, BR30, BR40 and ER40 lamps of sixty-five watts and R20  
161 lamps of not more than forty-five watts;

162 [(34) "Bottle-type water dispenser" means a water dispenser that uses  
163 a bottle or reservoir as the source of potable water;]

164 [(35)] (12) "Commercial hot food holding cabinet" means a heated,  
165 fully-enclosed compartment with one or more solid or [partial glass]  
166 transparent doors [that is] designed to maintain the temperature of hot  
167 food that has been cooked [in] using a separate appliance. "Commercial  
168 hot food holding cabinet" does not include heated glass merchandizing  
169 cabinets, drawer warmers or cook-and-hold appliances;

170 [(36) "Pool heater" means an appliance designed for heating  
171 nonpotable water contained at atmospheric pressure for swimming  
172 pools, spas, hot tubs and similar applications, including natural gas,  
173 heat pump, oil and electric resistance pool heaters;]

174 [(37)] (13) "Portable electric spa" means a factory-built electric spa or  
175 hot tub supplied with equipment for heating and circulating water;

176 [(38) "Residential pool pump" means a pump used to circulate and  
177 filter pool water to maintain clarity and sanitation;

178 (39) "Walk-in refrigerator" means a space refrigerated to  
179 temperatures at or above thirty-two degrees Fahrenheit that has a total  
180 chilled storage area of less than three thousand square feet, can be  
181 walked into and is designed for the refrigerated storage of food and food  
182 products. "Walk-in refrigerator" does not include refrigerated  
183 warehouses and products designed and marketed exclusively for  
184 medical, scientific or research purposes;

185 (40) "Walk-in freezer" means a space refrigerated to temperatures  
186 below thirty-two degrees Fahrenheit that has a total chilled storage area  
187 of less than three thousand square feet, can be walked into and is  
188 designed for the frozen storage of food and food products. "Walk-in  
189 freezer" does not include refrigerated warehouses and products  
190 designed and marketed exclusively for medical, scientific or research  
191 purposes;

192 (41) "Central air conditioner" means a central air conditioning model  
193 that consists of one or more factory-made assemblies, which normally

194 include an evaporator or cooling coil, compressor and condenser.  
195 Central air conditioning models may provide the function of air cooling,  
196 air cleaning, dehumidifying or humidifying;]

197 [(42)] (14) "Combination television" means a system in which a  
198 television or television monitor and an additional device or devices,  
199 including, but not limited to, a digital versatile disc player or video  
200 cassette recorder, are combined into a single unit in which the additional  
201 devices are included in the television casing;

202 [(43) "Compact audio player" means an integrated audio system  
203 encased in a single housing that includes an amplifier and radio tuner  
204 with attached or separable speakers and can reproduce audio from one  
205 or more of the following media: Magnetic tape, compact disc, digital  
206 versatile disc or flash memory. "Compact audio player" does not mean  
207 a product that can be independently powered by internal batteries, has  
208 a powered external satellite antenna or can provide a video output  
209 signal;]

210 [(44)] (15) "Component television" means a television composed of  
211 two or more separate components, such as a separate display device and  
212 tuner, marketed and sold as a television under one model or system  
213 designation, which may have more than one power cord;

214 [(45)] (16) "Computer monitor" [means an analog or digital device  
215 designed primarily for the display of computer generated signals and  
216 that is not marketed for use as a television] has the same meaning as  
217 provided in section 1602 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 20,  
218 Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4;

219 [(46)] (17) "Digital versatile disc" means a laser-encoded plastic  
220 medium capable of storing a large amount of digital audio, video and  
221 computer data;

222 [(47)] (18) "Digital versatile disc player" means a commercially  
223 available electronic product encased in a single housing that includes an



224 integral power supply and for which the sole purpose is the decoding  
225 of digitized video signals;

226 [(48) "Digital versatile disc recorder" means a commercially available  
227 electronic product encased in a single housing that includes an integral  
228 power supply and for which the sole purpose is the production or  
229 recording of digitized audio, video and computer signals on a digital  
230 versatile disc. "Digital versatile disc recorder" does not include a model  
231 that has an electronic programming guide function;]

232 [(49)] (19) "Television" means an analog or digital device designed  
233 primarily for the display and reception of a terrestrial, satellite, cable,  
234 internet protocol television or other broadcast or recorded transmission  
235 of analog or digital video and audio signals. "Television" includes  
236 combination televisions, television monitors, component televisions  
237 and any unit that is marketed to consumers as a television but does not  
238 include a computer monitor;

239 [(50)] (20) "Television monitor" means a television that does not have  
240 an internal tuner/receiver or playback device;

241 (21) "Cold temperature fluorescent lamp" means a fluorescent lamp  
242 that is not a compact fluorescent lamp that: (A) Is specifically designed  
243 to start at negative twenty degrees Fahrenheit when used with a ballast  
244 that conforms to the requirements of ANSI C78.81 and ANSI C78.901;  
245 and (B) is expressly designated as a cold temperature lamp both in  
246 markings on the lamp and in marketing materials, including, but not  
247 limited to, catalogs, sales literature and promotional material;

248 (22) "Computer" has the same meaning as provided in section 1602 of  
249 the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4,  
250 Article 4;

251 (23) "Commercial dishwasher" means a machine designed to clean  
252 and sanitize plates, pots, pans, glasses, cups, bowls, utensils and trays

253 by applying sprays of detergent solution, with or without blasting  
254 media granules, and a sanitizing rinse;

255 (24) "Commercial fryer" means an appliance, including a cooking  
256 vessel, in which oil is placed to such a depth that the cooking food is  
257 essentially supported by displacement of the cooking fluid rather than  
258 by the bottom of the vessel. Heat is delivered to the cooking fluid by  
259 means of an immersed electric element or band-wrapped vessel, for an  
260 electric fryer, or by heat transfer from gas burners through either the  
261 walls of the fryer or through tubes passing through the cooking fluid,  
262 for a gas fryer;

263 (25) "Commercial oven" means a chamber designed for heating,  
264 roasting or baking food by conduction, convection, radiation or  
265 electromagnetic energy;

266 (26) "Commercial steam cooker" or "compartment steamer" means a  
267 device with one or more food-steaming compartments in which the  
268 energy in the steam is transferred to the food by direct contact,  
269 including, but not limited to, the following models: Countertop models,  
270 wall-mounted models and floor models mounted on a stand, pedestal  
271 or cabinet-style base;

272 (27) "High color rendering index fluorescent lamp" means a  
273 fluorescent lamp with a color rendering index of eighty-seven or greater  
274 that is not a compact fluorescent lamp;

275 (28) "Impact-resistant fluorescent lamp" means a fluorescent lamp  
276 that is not a compact fluorescent lamp that: (A) Has a coating or  
277 equivalent technology that is in compliance with NSF/ANSI 51 and is  
278 designed to contain the glass if the glass envelope of the lamp is broken;  
279 and (B) is designated and marketed for the intended application, with  
280 the designation on the lamp packaging and marketing materials that  
281 identify the lamp as being impact-resistant, shatter-resistant, shatter-  
282 proof or shatter-protected;

283       (29) "Faucet" means a lavatory faucet, kitchen faucet, metering faucet,  
284 public lavatory faucet or replacement aerator for a lavatory, public  
285 lavatory or kitchen faucet;

286       (30) "Lavatory faucet" means a plumbing fitting designed for  
287 discharge into a lavatory;

288       (31) "Public lavatory faucet" means a fitting intended to be installed  
289 in nonresidential bathrooms that are exposed to walk-in traffic;

290       (32) "Metering faucet" means a fitting that, when turned on, will  
291 gradually shut itself off over a period of several seconds;

292       (33) "Residential ventilating fan" means a ceiling, wall-mounted or  
293 remotely mounted in-line fan designed to be used in a bathroom or  
294 utility room, whose purpose is to move air from inside the building to  
295 the outdoors;

296       (34) "Showerhead" means a device through which water is  
297 discharged for a shower bath and includes a hand-held showerhead but  
298 does not include a safety shower showerhead;

299       (35) "Hand-held showerhead" means a showerhead that can be held  
300 or fixed in place for the purpose of spraying water onto a bather and  
301 that is connected to a flexible hose;

302       (36) "Water cooler" means a freestanding device that consumes  
303 energy to cool or heat potable water;

304       (37) "Hot and cold unit water cooler" means a water cooler that  
305 dispenses both hot and cold water and may dispense room-temperature  
306 water;

307       (38) "Cook and cold unit water cooler" means a water cooler that  
308 dispenses both cold and room-temperature water;

309 (39) "Storage-type hot and cold unit water cooler" means a water  
310 cooler where thermally conditioned water is stored in a tank in the water  
311 cooler and is available instantaneously, including, but not limited to,  
312 point-of-use, dry storage compartment and bottled water coolers;

313 (40) "On-demand hot and cold water cooler" means a water cooler  
314 that heats water as it is requested and typically takes a few minutes to  
315 deliver;

316 (41) "Gas fireplace" means a decorative gas fireplace or a heating gas  
317 fireplace;

318 (42) "Decorative gas fireplace" means a vented fireplace, including  
319 appliances that are freestanding, recessed or zero clearance, or a gas  
320 fireplace insert, that is fueled by natural gas or propane, is marked for  
321 decorative use only and is not equipped with a thermostat or intended  
322 for use as a heater;

323 (43) "Heating gas fireplace" means a vented fireplace, including  
324 appliances that are freestanding, recessed or zero clearance, or a gas  
325 fireplace insert, that is fueled by natural gas or propane and is not a  
326 decorative fireplace; and

327 (44) "Replacement aerator" means an aerator sold as a replacement,  
328 separate from the faucet to which is intended to be attached.

329 [(b) The provisions of this section apply to the testing, certification  
330 and enforcement of efficiency standards for the following types of new  
331 products sold, offered for sale or installed in the state: (1) Commercial  
332 clothes washers; (2) commercial refrigerators and freezers; (3)  
333 illuminated exit signs; (4) large packaged air-conditioning equipment;  
334 (5) low voltage dry-type distribution transformers; (6) torchiere lighting  
335 fixtures; (7) traffic signal modules; (8) unit heaters; (9) residential  
336 furnaces and boilers; (10) residential pool pumps; (11) metal halide lamp  
337 fixtures; (12) single voltage external AC to DC power supplies; (13) state  
338 regulated incandescent reflector lamps; (14) bottle-type water

339 dispensers; (15) commercial hot food holding cabinets; (16) portable  
340 electric spas; (17) walk-in refrigerators and walk-in freezers; (18) pool  
341 heaters; (19) compact audio players; (20) televisions; (21) digital versatile  
342 disc players; (22) digital versatile disc recorders; and (23) any other  
343 products as may be designated by the commissioner in accordance with  
344 subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of this section.]

345 [(c)] (b) The provisions of this section do not apply to (1) new  
346 products manufactured in the state and sold outside the state, (2) new  
347 products manufactured outside the state and sold at wholesale inside  
348 the state for final retail sale and installation outside the state, (3)  
349 products installed in mobile manufactured homes at the time of  
350 construction, or (4) products designed expressly for installation and use  
351 in recreational vehicles.

352 [(d) (1) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection  
353 shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,  
354 to implement the provisions of this section and to establish minimum  
355 energy efficiency standards for the types of new products set forth in  
356 subsection (b) of this section. The regulations shall provide for the  
357 following minimum energy efficiency standards:

358 (A) Commercial clothes washers shall meet the requirements shown  
359 in Table P-3 of section 1605.3 of the California Code of Regulations, Title  
360 20: Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4;

361 (B) Commercial refrigerators and freezers shall meet the August 1,  
362 2004, requirements shown in Table A-6 of said California regulation;

363 (C) Illuminated exit signs shall meet the version 2.0 product  
364 specification of the "Energy Star Program Requirements for Exit Signs"  
365 developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency;

366 (D) Large packaged air-conditioning equipment having not more  
367 than seven hundred sixty thousand BTUs per hour of capacity shall  
368 meet a minimum energy efficiency ratio of 10.0 for units using both

369 electric heat and air conditioning or units solely using electric air  
370 conditioning, and 9.8 for units using both natural gas heat and electric  
371 air conditioning;

372 (E) Large packaged air-conditioning equipment having not less than  
373 seven hundred sixty-one thousand BTUs per hour of capacity shall meet  
374 a minimum energy efficiency ratio of 9.7 for units using both electric  
375 heat and air conditioning or units solely using electric air conditioning,  
376 and 9.5 for units using both natural gas heat and electric air  
377 conditioning;

378 (F) Low voltage dry-type distribution transformers shall meet or  
379 exceed the energy efficiency values shown in Table 4-2 of the National  
380 Electrical Manufacturers Association Standard TP-1-2002;]

381 (c) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection or  
382 subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section, on and after October 1,  
383 2025, the following minimum energy-efficiency standards and any test  
384 methods associated with such standards shall apply to new products:

385 ~~[(G)]~~ (A) Torchiere lighting fixtures shall not consume more than one  
386 hundred ninety watts and shall not be capable of operating with lamps  
387 that total more than one hundred ninety watts;

388 [(H) Traffic signal modules shall meet the product specification of the  
389 "Energy Star Program Requirements for Traffic Signals" developed by  
390 the United States Environmental Protection Agency that took effect in  
391 February, 2001, except where the department, in consultation with the  
392 Commissioner of Transportation, determines that such specification  
393 would compromise safe signal operation;

394 (I) Unit heaters shall not have pilot lights and shall have either power  
395 venting or an automatic flue damper;

396 (J) On or after January 1, 2009, residential furnaces and boilers  
397 purchased by the state shall meet or exceed the following annual fuel

398 utilization efficiency: (i) For gas and propane furnaces, ninety per cent  
399 annual fuel utilization efficiency, (ii) for oil furnaces, eighty-three per  
400 cent annual fuel utilization efficiency, (iii) for gas and propane hot water  
401 boilers, eighty-four per cent annual fuel utilization efficiency, (iv) for oil-  
402 fired hot water boilers, eighty-four per cent annual fuel utilization  
403 efficiency, (v) for gas and propane steam boilers, eighty-two per cent  
404 annual fuel utilization efficiency, (vi) for oil-fired steam boilers, eighty-  
405 two per cent annual fuel utilization efficiency, and (vii) for furnaces with  
406 furnace air handlers, an electricity ratio of not more than 2.0, except air  
407 handlers for oil furnaces with a capacity of less than ninety-four  
408 thousand BTUs per hour shall have an electricity ratio of 2.3 or less;]

409 [(K)] (B) [On or after January 1, 2010, metal] Metal halide lamp  
410 fixtures designed to be operated with lamps rated greater than or equal  
411 to one hundred fifty watts but less than or equal to five hundred watts  
412 shall not contain a probe-start metal halide lamp ballast;

413 [(L)] Single-voltage external AC to DC power supplies manufactured  
414 on or after January 1, 2008, shall meet the energy efficiency standards of  
415 table U-1 of section 1605.3 of the January 2006 California Code of  
416 Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4: Appliance  
417 Efficiency Regulations. This standard applies to single voltage AC to DC  
418 power supplies that are sold individually and to those that are sold as a  
419 component of or in conjunction with another product. This standard  
420 shall not apply to single-voltage external AC to DC power supplies sold  
421 with products subject to certification by the United States Food and  
422 Drug Administration. A single-voltage external AC to DC power supply  
423 that is made available by a manufacturer directly to a consumer or to a  
424 service or repair facility after and separate from the original sale of the  
425 product requiring the power supply as a service part or spare part shall  
426 not be required to meet the standards in said table U-1 until five years  
427 after the effective dates indicated in the table;]

428 [(M)] (C) [On or after January 1, 2009, state] State regulated  
429 incandescent reflector lamps shall be manufactured to meet the

430 minimum average lamp efficacy requirements for federally regulated  
431 incandescent reflector lamps contained in [42 USC 6295(i)(1)(A)] 42 USC  
432 6295(i)(1)(B). Each lamp shall indicate the date of manufacture;

433 [(N) On or after January 1, 2009, bottle-type water dispensers,  
434 commercial hot food holding cabinets, portable electric spas, walk-in  
435 refrigerators and walk-in freezers shall meet the efficiency requirements  
436 of section 1605.3 of the January 2006 California Code of Regulations,  
437 Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4: Appliance Efficiency  
438 Regulations. On or after January 1, 2010, residential pool pumps shall  
439 meet said efficiency requirements;

440 (O) On or after January 1, 2009, pool heaters shall meet the efficiency  
441 requirements of sections 1605.1 and 1605.3 of the January 2006  
442 California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4:  
443 Appliance Efficiency Regulations;

444 (P) By January 1, 2014, compact audio players, digital versatile disc  
445 players and digital versatile disc recorders shall meet the requirements  
446 shown in Table V-1 of Section 1605.3 of the November 2009 amendments  
447 to the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4,  
448 Article 4, unless the commissioner, in accordance with subparagraph (B)  
449 of subdivision (3) of this subsection, determines that such standards are  
450 unwarranted and may accept, reject or modify according to  
451 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection;]

452 [(Q)] ~~(D)~~ [On or after January 1, 2014, televisions] Televisions  
453 manufactured on or after July 1, 2011, shall meet the requirements  
454 shown in Table V-2 of Section 1605.3 of the November 2009 amendments  
455 to the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4,  
456 Article 4; [, unless the commissioner, in accordance with subparagraph  
457 (B) of subdivision (3) of this subsection, determines that such standards  
458 are unwarranted and may accept, reject or modify according to  
459 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection;] and

460 [(R)] ~~(E)~~ In addition to the requirements of subparagraph [(Q)] ~~(D)~~ of



461 this subdivision, televisions manufactured on or after January 1, 2014,  
462 shall meet the efficiency requirements of Sections 1605.3(v)(3)(A),  
463 1605.3(v)(3)(B) and 1605.3(v)(3)(C) of the November 2009 amendments  
464 to the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4,  
465 Article 4. [, unless the commissioner, in accordance with subparagraph  
466 (B) of subdivision (3) of this subsection, determines that such standards  
467 are unwarranted and may accept, reject or modify according to  
468 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection.]

469 (2) On or after January 1, 2026, except as provided in subdivision (1)  
470 of subsection (d) of this section, the following minimum energy-  
471 efficiency standards and test methods associated with such standards  
472 shall apply to new products sold or leased, offered for sale or lease or  
473 installed in the state:

474 (A) Commercial dishwashers included in the scope of the version 2.0  
475 product specification of the "Energy Star Program Requirements for  
476 Commercial Dishwashers" developed by the United States  
477 Environmental Protection Agency shall meet the qualification criteria of  
478 such specification;

479 (B) Commercial fryers included in the scope of the version 2.0  
480 product specification of the "Energy Star Program Requirements for  
481 Commercial Fryers" developed by the United States Environmental  
482 Protection Agency shall meet the qualification criteria of such  
483 specification;

484 (C) Commercial hot food holding cabinets shall meet the version 2.0  
485 product specification of the "Energy Star Program Requirements for  
486 Commercial Hot Food Holding Cabinets" developed by the United  
487 States Environmental Protection Agency;

488 (D) Commercial ovens included in the scope of the version 2.2  
489 product specification of the "Energy Star Program Requirements for  
490 Commercial Ovens" developed by the United States Environmental

491 Protection Agency shall meet the qualification criteria of such  
492 specification;

493 (E) Commercial steam cookers shall meet the version 1.2 product  
494 specification of the "Energy Star Program Requirements for Commercial  
495 Steam Cookers" developed by the United States Environmental  
496 Protection Agency;

497 (F) Computers and computer monitors shall meet the requirements  
498 of subsection (v) of section 1605.3 of the California Code of Regulations,  
499 Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4, and compliance with such  
500 requirements shall be measured in accordance with the test methods  
501 prescribed in subsection (v) of section 1604 of said California regulation.  
502 Any regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to this section  
503 shall define the terms "computer" and "computer monitor" to have the  
504 same meanings provided in subsection (v) of section 1602 of the  
505 California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4,  
506 and subsection (a) of this section, provided the commissioner may  
507 amend such regulations to provide that the definitions of the terms  
508 "computer" and "computer monitor" and the minimum efficiency  
509 standards for computers and computer monitors conform to  
510 subsequently adopted versions of subsection (v) of section 1605.3 of the  
511 California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4,  
512 and subsection (v) of section 1602 of the California Code of Regulations,  
513 Title 20, Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4, as applicable;

514 (G) Faucets, except metering faucets, shall meet the standards in this  
515 subparagraph when tested in accordance with the "Uniform Test  
516 Method for Measuring the Water Consumption of Faucets and  
517 Showerheads" set forth in 10 CFR 430, Subpart B, Appendix S. Lavatory  
518 faucets and their replacement aerators shall not exceed a maximum flow  
519 rate of 1.5 gallons per minute at sixty pounds per square inch. Kitchen  
520 faucets and their replacement aerators shall not exceed a maximum flow  
521 rate of 1.8 gallons per minute at sixty pounds per square inch, with  
522 optional temporary flow of 2.2 gallons per minute, provided they

523 default to a maximum flow rate of 1.8 gallons per minute at sixty pounds  
524 per square inch after each use. Public lavatory faucets and their  
525 replacement aerators shall not exceed a maximum flow rate of 0.5  
526 gallons per minute at sixty pounds per square inch;

527 (H) Gas fireplaces shall comply with the following requirements:

528 (i) Gas fireplaces shall be capable of automatically extinguishing any  
529 pilot flame when the main gas burner flame is extinguished or shall  
530 prevent any ignition source for the main gas burner flame from  
531 operating continuously for more than seven days from last use of the  
532 main burner; and

533 (ii) Heating gas fireplaces shall have a fireplace efficiency greater than  
534 or equal to fifty per cent when tested in accordance with Canadian  
535 Standards Association P.4.1-15, "Testing Method for Measuring Annual  
536 Fireplace Efficiency", as amended from time to time;

537 (I) High-color rendering index, cold temperature and impact-  
538 resistant fluorescent lamps shall meet the minimum efficacy  
539 requirements contained in 10 CFR 430.32(n)(4), as in effect on January 1,  
540 2021, as measured in accordance with the "Uniform Test Method for  
541 Measuring Average Lamp Efficacy (LE), Color Rendering Index (CRI),  
542 and Correlated Color Temperature (CCT) of Electric Lamps" set forth in  
543 10 CFR 430, Subpart B, Appendix R, as in effect on January 1, 2022;

544 (J) Portable electric spas shall meet the requirements of  
545 ANSI/APSP/ICC-14-2019, "American National Standard for Portable  
546 Electric Spa Energy Efficiency";

547 (K) In-line residential ventilating fans shall have a fan motor efficacy  
548 of not less than 2.8 cubic feet per minute per watt. All other residential  
549 ventilating fans shall have a fan motor efficacy of not less than 1.4 cubic  
550 feet per minute per watt for airflows less than ninety cubic feet per  
551 minute and not less than 2.8 cubic feet per minute per watt for other

552 airflows when tested in accordance with Home Ventilation Institute  
553 Publication 916, "HVI Airflow Test Procedure";

554 (L) Showerheads shall not exceed a maximum flow rate of 2.0 gallons  
555 per minute at eighty pounds per square inch when tested in accordance  
556 with the "Uniform Test Method for Measuring the Water Consumption  
557 of Faucets and Showerheads" set forth in 10 CFR 430, Subpart B,  
558 Appendix S; and

559 (M) Water coolers included in the scope of the version 2.0 product  
560 specification of the "Energy Star Program Requirements for Water  
561 Coolers" developed by the United States Environmental Protection  
562 Agency shall have an on mode with no water draw and energy  
563 consumption less than or equal to the following values as measured in  
564 accordance with the test requirements of such specification: (i) 0.16  
565 kilowatt-hour per day for cold-only water coolers and cook and cold  
566 unit water coolers; (ii) 0.87 of one kilowatt-hour per day for storage-type  
567 hot and cold unit water coolers; and (iii) 0.18 of one kilowatt-hour per  
568 day for on demand hot and cold unit water coolers.

569 [(2) Such] (d) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 29-252,  
570 such efficiency standards, where in conflict with the State Building  
571 Code, shall take precedence over the standards contained in the State  
572 Building Code. Not later than [July 1, 2007] October 1, 2026, and  
573 biennially thereafter, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental  
574 Protection shall review and increase the level of such efficiency  
575 standards by adopting regulations in accordance with the provisions of  
576 chapter 54 upon a determination that increased efficiency standards  
577 would serve to promote energy conservation in the state and would be  
578 cost-effective for consumers who purchase and use such new products,  
579 provided no such increased efficiency standards shall become effective  
580 [within] not earlier than one year [following] after the adoption of any  
581 amended regulations providing for such increased efficiency standards.

582 [(3) (A)] (2) If any of the efficiency standards issued or approved for

583 publication by the Office of the United States Secretary of Energy as of  
584 December 31, 2024, pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation  
585 Act, 10 Code of Federal Regulation Parts 430-431, are withdrawn,  
586 repealed or otherwise voided, new products shall meet or exceed the  
587 minimum efficiency level permitted for products previously subject to  
588 federal efficiency standards as of said date. This subdivision shall not  
589 apply to any federal efficiency standard set aside by a court upon the  
590 petition of a person who will be adversely affected, as provided in  
591 section 6306(b) of title 42 of the United States Code.

592 (3) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection  
593 [shall] may adopt regulations, or amend regulations previously adopted  
594 pursuant to this section, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,  
595 to designate additional products to be subject to the provisions of this  
596 section and to establish efficiency or greenhouse gas emissions  
597 standards for such products upon a determination that such [efficiency]  
598 standards: [(i) would] (A) Would (i) serve to promote energy  
599 conservation in the state, (ii) [would] lower greenhouse gas emissions,  
600 and (iii) be cost-effective for consumers who purchase and use such new  
601 products; [,] and [(iii)] (B) would not impose an unreasonable burden on  
602 [Connecticut] businesses in the state. Such standards may include, but  
603 need not be limited to, requirements concerning the ability of a product  
604 to interface with a local electric utility's demand response program.

605 (4) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may  
606 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to  
607 designate additional products that shall be subject to the provisions of  
608 this section for any product that energy standards were issued for or  
609 approved for publication on or before January 1, 2018, pursuant to the  
610 Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 USC 6201 et seq., by the United  
611 States Department of Energy and that were subsequently withdrawn,  
612 repealed or otherwise voided. For such products, the minimum energy-  
613 efficiency level permitted shall be such previously applicable federal  
614 energy conservation standards, as such standards existed on January 1,  
615 2018. This subdivision shall not apply to any federal energy

616 conservation standard set aside by a court upon the petition of a person  
617 who will be adversely affected, as provided in 42 USC 6306(b).

618 [(B) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in  
619 consultation with the Multi-State Appliance Standards Collaborative,  
620 shall identify additional appliance and equipment efficiency standards.  
621 The commissioner shall review all California standards and may review  
622 standards from other states in such collaborative. The commissioner  
623 shall issue notice of such review in the Connecticut Law Journal, allow  
624 for public comment and may hold a public hearing within six months of  
625 adoption of an efficiency standard by a cooperative member state  
626 regarding a product for which no equivalent Connecticut or federal  
627 standard currently exists. The commissioner shall adopt regulations in  
628 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 adopting such efficiency  
629 standard unless the commissioner makes a specific finding that such  
630 standard does not meet the criteria in subparagraph (A) of this  
631 subdivision.

632 (e) On or after July 1, 2006, except for commercial clothes washers, for  
633 which the date shall be July 1, 2007, commercial refrigerators and  
634 freezers, for which the date shall be July 1, 2008, and large packaged air-  
635 conditioning equipment, for which the date shall be July 1, 2009, no new  
636 product of a type set forth in subsection (b) of this section or designated  
637 by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may be  
638 sold, offered for sale, or installed in the state unless the energy efficiency  
639 of the new product meets or exceeds the efficiency standards set forth  
640 in such regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

641 (f) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall  
642 adopt procedures for testing the energy efficiency of the new products  
643 set forth in subsection (b) of this section or designated by the  
644 commissioner if such procedures are not provided for in the State  
645 Building Code. The commissioner shall use United States Department  
646 of Energy approved test methods, or in the absence of such test  
647 methods, other appropriate nationally recognized test methods. The

648 manufacturers of such products shall cause samples of such products to  
649 be tested in accordance with the test procedures adopted pursuant to  
650 this subsection or those specified in the State Building Code.

651 (g) Manufacturers of any new products set forth in subsection (b) of  
652 this section for which (1) no efficiency standards exist in California, and  
653 (2) the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection adopts  
654 efficiency standards, shall certify to the commissioner that such  
655 products are in compliance with the provisions of this section, except  
656 that certification is not required for single voltage external AC to DC  
657 power supplies and walk-in refrigerators and walk-in freezers. All  
658 single voltage external AC to DC power supplies shall be labeled as  
659 described in the January 2006 California Code of Regulations, Title 20,  
660 Section 1607(9). The commissioner shall promulgate regulations  
661 governing the certification of such products.]

662 (e) Manufacturers of products subject to the provisions of this section  
663 shall submit documentation, on a form prescribed by the commissioner,  
664 concerning the certification of such products by the California Energy  
665 Commission, the United States Environmental Protection Agency's  
666 Water Sense program or a successor program that promotes water  
667 efficiency, the federal Energy Star program or a successor program that  
668 promotes energy efficiency, or a third-party certification body  
669 designated by the commissioner, as applicable, for compliance with this  
670 section or compliance with identical standards adopted by another  
671 jurisdiction. The commissioner shall publish an annual list of [any  
672 products set forth in subsection (b) of this section on the department's  
673 Internet web site that designates which such products are certified in  
674 California and which such products not certified in California have  
675 demonstrated compliance with efficiency standards adopted by the  
676 commissioner pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of  
677 subsection (d) of this section] such products.

678 (f) The commissioner may periodically inspect or cause inspections  
679 to be made, either in person or online, of distributors and retailers of

680 new products subject to the provisions of this section. The commissioner  
681 may establish a process to anonymously report potential violations of  
682 this section through the department's Internet web site.

683 [(h)] (g) The Attorney General may institute proceedings to enforce  
684 the provisions of this section. Any person who violates any provision of  
685 this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than two  
686 hundred fifty dollars. Each violation of this section shall constitute a  
687 separate offense, and each day that such violation continues shall  
688 constitute a separate offense.

689 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 21a-86a of the general statutes is  
690 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
691 *1, 2025*):

692 (b) The maximum water use allowed in the regulations adopted  
693 under subsection (a) of this section for [showerheads,] urinals [, faucets  
694 and replacement aerators] manufactured or sold on or after October 1,  
695 1990, shall be [as follows: For showerheads, 2.5 gallons per minute; for  
696 urinals,] 1.0 gallons per flush. [,; for bathroom sinks, lavatory and kitchen  
697 faucets and replacement aerators, 2.5 gallons per minute, except that  
698 lavatories in restrooms of public facilities shall be equipped with outlet  
699 devices which limit the flow rate to a maximum of 0.5 gallons per  
700 minute.] The maximum water use allowed in the regulations adopted  
701 under subsection (a) of this section for tank-type toilets, flushometer-  
702 valve toilets, flushometer-tank toilets and electromechanical hydraulic  
703 toilets manufactured or sold on or after January 1, 1992, shall be 1.6  
704 gallons per flush, unless and until equivalent standards for similar types  
705 of toilets are adopted by the American National Standards Institute, Inc.

706 Sec. 3. Section 21a-86b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
707 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

708 No person may sell, offer for sale or install any new [showerhead,]  
709 urinal [, faucet or replacement aerator on and after October 1, 1990,] or  
710 any new tank-type toilet, flushometer-valve toilet, flushometer-tank



711 toilet or electromechanical hydraulic toilet on and after January 1, 1992,  
712 unless such [showerhead,] urinal, [faucet, replacement aerator,] tank-  
713 type toilet, flushometer-valve toilet, flushometer-tank toilet or  
714 electromechanical hydraulic toilet meets or exceeds the efficiency  
715 standards set forth in regulations adopted by the Commissioner of  
716 Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-86a, or is  
717 authorized under the regulations adopted by the commissioner  
718 pursuant to subsection (d) of said section.

719       Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2025,  
720 the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in  
721 collaboration with the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, shall  
722 study the current energy-efficiency standards set forth in section 16a-48  
723 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and the current water  
724 efficiency standards set forth in section 21a-86a of the general statutes,  
725 as amended by this act, to determine the need to update said standards  
726 and the addition or deletion of products to or from the standards. In its  
727 study, the commissioners shall evaluate topics including, but not  
728 limited to (1) an identification of any standards that have been federally  
729 preempted; (2) whether the current statutory structure dividing electric  
730 and water-efficiency standards should be preserved or revised; and (3)  
731 an identification of additional products to include within the standards,  
732 the relevant standard for the additional products and an evaluation of  
733 potential cost savings of the products for consumers. Not later than  
734 January 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, in  
735 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
736 shall submit a report on the results of the study to the joint standing  
737 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
738 relating to the environment and consumer protection.

739       Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2026,  
740 the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall initiate an uncontested  
741 proceeding regarding the future of natural gas use in the state in relation  
742 to the provisions of section 22a-200a of the general statutes. Such  
743 proceeding shall include, but need not be limited to, the consideration

744 and implementation of beneficial electrification measures such as  
745 geothermal systems and heat pumps and the integration of natural gas  
746 and electric company joint planning processes. Upon completion of such  
747 uncontested proceeding, said authority shall submit a report, in  
748 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
749 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
750 cognizance of matters relating to the environment and energy and  
751 technology on any recommendations for legislative changes necessary  
752 to implement the findings of such proceeding.

753       Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
754 section:

755       (1) "Utility-scale renewable thermal energy network" means  
756 distribution infrastructure (A) established for the purpose of providing  
757 thermal energy for space heating and cooling, domestic hot water  
758 production, refrigeration, thermal energy storage or commercial and  
759 industrial processes requiring heating or cooling, and (B) implemented  
760 through interconnections between one or more renewable thermal  
761 energy resources, which may be owned by multiple parties, and  
762 between these resources and heat pumps in multiple buildings owned  
763 by multiple parties; and

764       (2) "Renewable thermal energy" means (A) ambient heating or  
765 cooling provided, absorbed or stored by geothermal well boreholes or  
766 other noncombusting, non-fossil-fuel-consuming, nonnuclear thermal  
767 resources, or (B) thermal energy otherwise lost to the atmosphere or  
768 other environmental compartment as waste heat.

769       (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of title 16 of the general statutes,  
770 not later than twelve months after the effective date of this section, the  
771 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall initiate a proceeding to  
772 establish a program for development of utility-scale renewable thermal  
773 energy networks by gas companies, as defined in section 16-1 of the  
774 general statutes. In establishing said program, the authority shall

775 develop parameters for such networks, procedures or filing proposals  
776 for such networks, and a standardized data collection system enabling  
777 the authority and the public to track the status and performance of  
778 utility-scale renewable thermal energy networks developed pursuant to  
779 this section.

780 (c) The authority shall structure the utility-scale renewable thermal  
781 energy network program in the best interest of ratepayers of public  
782 service companies, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes. For  
783 purposes of this section, a determination of the best interest of  
784 ratepayers shall be based on an analysis of the reasonableness of the  
785 size, scope, scale and character of the project and related budget and the  
786 costs and benefits of the project, including, but not limited to: (1)  
787 Avoided long-term energy and infrastructure investments in extending  
788 or maintaining gas infrastructure; (2) the anticipated contribution of  
789 such projects to alleviation of seasonal strains on the state's natural gas  
790 supply and electric distribution system; (3) consumer protections and  
791 benefits for end users of the project; (4) adherence to best practices  
792 emerging from thermal energy network programs and project designs  
793 developed in other states or elsewhere in the state; (5) potential for  
794 accrual of capital and operational cost savings via interconnection with  
795 other existing or future thermal energy networks; (6) improvements in  
796 air quality in the buildings and neighborhood served by the project; and  
797 (7) reductions in greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to achieving  
798 the emissions reductions set forth in section 22a-200a of the general  
799 statutes. The authority may approve a utility-scale renewable thermal  
800 energy network proposal that meets the parameters established under  
801 the program.

802 (d) The authority shall create a pilot component of the utility-scale  
803 renewable thermal energy network program that requires each gas  
804 company to file with the authority, for its review and approval,  
805 proposals for not less than one and not more than two pilot projects for  
806 the development of utility-scale renewable thermal energy networks  
807 that meet the program parameters established in subsection (c) of this

808 section. The authority shall review a proposal for a pilot project based  
809 on the program parameters and on the basis of the project's ability to  
810 provide insights into the potential for scaling up future deployment of  
811 thermal energy networks in Connecticut, for improving the  
812 performance of these networks and for bringing down the cost of  
813 broader deployment of these networks.

814 (e) The authority shall require projects submitted to the utility-scale  
815 renewable thermal energy network program for approval to include a  
816 proposed rate structure for thermal energy services supplied to network  
817 end users as well as consumer-protection plans for end users. The  
818 authority may approve the proposed rate structure if the projected  
819 heating and cooling costs for end users is not greater than the heating  
820 and cooling costs the end users would be projected to incur if had they  
821 not participated.

822 (f) The authority shall approve the recovery of prudent costs incurred  
823 by a gas company for the development and construction of projects  
824 approved pursuant to the utility-scale renewable thermal energy  
825 program through a nonbypassable and fully reconciling component of  
826 gas rates for all customers of the gas company.

827 (g) A gas company may meet its obligation under subsection (b) of  
828 section 16-20 of the general statutes through a project approved by the  
829 authority pursuant to this section.

830 (h) The authority shall ensure transparency and validity of the  
831 outcomes of the projects developed pursuant to this section through  
832 third-party evaluation of the data the authority collects through its  
833 standardized data collection requirement.

834 (i) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a municipality from  
835 developing, owning or maintaining a utility-scale renewable thermal  
836 energy network.

837 (j) As part of the utility-scale renewable thermal energy network

838 program, the authority shall establish a working group to study thermal  
839 energy networks, comprising representatives of the staffs of the  
840 authority, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the  
841 Connecticut Green Bank, the gas and electric companies and  
842 nongovernmental environmental organizations.

843 (k) As part of the utility-scale renewable thermal energy network  
844 program, the authority shall, through the working group established  
845 under subsection (j) of this section, undertake a study or studies  
846 assessing the potential breadth of deployment of thermal energy  
847 networks in the state. Said study shall address factors, including, but not  
848 limited to: (1) Technical feasibility; (2) economic feasibility, taking into  
849 account the potential for (A) reduction in energy costs of the customer  
850 that is the off-taker of the system; (B) reduction in network capital costs  
851 as the scale of deployments increases; (C) reduction in capital and  
852 operating costs as thermal energy networks are interconnected; (D)  
853 avoided cost of expanding and maintaining portions of the gas-  
854 distribution system; (E) minimization of the cost of expanding the  
855 electricity-distribution system to facilitate increasing electrification of  
856 thermal loads; (F) reduction in per-kilowatt-hour cost of supplying  
857 electricity as more electricity is sold; (G) state and federal financial  
858 incentives available; (H) employing and advancing the skills of gas-  
859 utility workers; (I) providing the gas utility companies a business model  
860 not dependent on continued use of combustion of fossil fuels; and (J)  
861 improvement of air quality; (3) deployment strategies to maximize the  
862 scope, minimize the cost and equitably allocate the cost of thermal  
863 energy networks, including systematic identification of significant  
864 sources of waste heat across the state; (4) considerations regarding  
865 deployment in (A) low and moderate-income communities; (B)  
866 environmental-justice communities; (C) new residential and  
867 commercial construction versus retrofitting existing residential and  
868 commercial buildings; (D) urban versus rural communities; (E) areas  
869 with existing gas service versus areas without; and (F) ownership and  
870 business models; and (5) appropriate parameters for broader

871 deployment in the near and medium term, including site selection,  
872 network design, interactions with and impacts on the gas and electricity  
873 distribution systems, ratepayer protections, billing models, consumer  
874 protections, data collection, community engagement and deployment in  
875 low and moderate-income communities and environmental justice  
876 communities.

877       Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
878 section:

879       (1) "Renewable thermal energy network" means distribution  
880 infrastructure (A) established for the purpose of providing thermal  
881 energy for space heating and cooling, domestic hot water production,  
882 refrigeration, thermal energy storage or commercial and industrial  
883 processes requiring heating or cooling, and (B) implemented through  
884 interconnections between one or more renewable thermal energy  
885 resources, which may be owned by multiple parties, and between these  
886 resources and heat pumps in multiple buildings owned by multiple  
887 parties; and

888       (2) "Renewable thermal energy" means (A) ambient heating or  
889 cooling provided, absorbed or stored by geothermal well boreholes or  
890 other noncombusting, non-fossil-fuel-consuming, nonnuclear thermal  
891 resources, or (B) thermal energy otherwise lost to the atmosphere or  
892 other environmental compartment as waste heat.

893       (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of title 16 of the general statutes,  
894 each gas company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, shall  
895 develop an incentive program for renewable thermal energy networks  
896 to be owned by municipalities, a municipal utility, as defined in section  
897 12-265 of the general statutes, a municipal electric energy cooperative,  
898 as defined in section 7-233b of the general statutes, or an entity that has  
899 a contractual obligation to a municipality to construct, operate and  
900 maintain a renewable thermal network for the purpose of reducing  
901 natural gas and electric demand in the state. Such program shall provide

902 an incentive payment to said entities to connect end use customers to  
903 the renewable thermal energy network. Such incentive payment shall be  
904 based on the projected natural gas and electric demand reduction of  
905 contractually obligated demand for a period of twenty years. The  
906 projected natural gas and electric demand reduction shall be based on  
907 the expected gas or electric demand that the renewable thermal loop is  
908 displacing.

909 (c) A gas company shall design its renewable thermal energy network  
910 program in the best interest of ratepayers of public service companies,  
911 as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, and submit its program  
912 design for review and approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory  
913 Authority. For purposes of this section, a determination of the best  
914 interest of ratepayers shall be based on an analysis of the reasonableness  
915 of the size, scope, scale and character of the project and related budget  
916 and the costs and benefits of the project, including, but not limited to:  
917 (1) Avoided long-term energy and infrastructure investments in  
918 extending or maintaining gas infrastructure; (2) the anticipated  
919 contribution of such projects to the alleviation of seasonal strains on the  
920 state's natural gas supply and electric distribution system; (3) consumer  
921 protections and benefits for end users of the project; (4) adherence to  
922 best practices emerging from thermal energy network programs and  
923 project designs developed in other states or elsewhere in the state; (5)  
924 potential for accrual of capital and operational cost savings via  
925 interconnection with other existing or future thermal energy networks;  
926 (6) improvements in air quality in the buildings and neighborhood  
927 served by the project; and (7) reductions in greenhouse gas emissions  
928 that contribute to achieving the emissions reductions set forth in section  
929 22a-200a of the general statutes.

930 (d) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall ensure that the  
931 revenues required to fund such incentive payments made pursuant to  
932 this section are provided through a nonbypassable and fully reconciling  
933 component of gas rates for all customers of the gas company, which  
934 shall not exceed more than \_\_\_\_ million dollars in total for the program

935 established under this section, provided that such revenues exceeding  
936 two million dollars required to fund such incentive payments shall be  
937 paid over a period of not less than two years. Such revenues shall only  
938 be collected from the gas customers of the company in whose service  
939 area are such renewable thermal energy networks or, as determined by  
940 the authority, the company in whose service area the renewable thermal  
941 energy network would be but for the existence of a municipal utility or  
942 municipal energy cooperative.

943 (e) The owners of the renewable thermal energy network shall ensure  
944 transparency and validity of the outcomes of the networks developed  
945 pursuant to this section through submitting data to track the status and  
946 performance of said network, which data shall be submitted to the  
947 authority.

948 Sec. 8. Section 16a-3j of the general statutes is repealed and the  
949 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

950 (a) In order to secure cost-effective resources to provide more reliable  
951 electric or gas service for the benefit of the state's electric ratepayers and  
952 to meet the state's energy and environmental goals and policies  
953 established in the Integrated Resources Plan, pursuant to section 16a-3a,  
954 and the Comprehensive Energy Strategy, pursuant to section 16a-3d, the  
955 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in consultation  
956 with the procurement manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-  
957 2, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General, may, in  
958 coordination with other states in the control area of the regional  
959 independent system operator, as defined in section 16-1, or on behalf of  
960 [Connecticut] the state alone, issue multiple solicitations for long-term  
961 contracts from providers of resources described in subsections (b), (c)  
962 and (d) of this section.

963 (b) In any solicitation for resources to reduce electric or gas demand  
964 and improve resiliency and electric or gas grid reliability in the state,  
965 issued pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner shall seek



966 proposals for (1) passive demand response measures, including, but not  
967 limited to, energy efficiency, load management, and the state's  
968 conservation and load management programs, pursuant to section 16-  
969 245m; [, that are capable, either singly or through aggregation, of  
970 reducing electric demand by one megawatt or more;] and (2) Class I  
971 renewable energy sources and Class III sources, as defined in section 16-  
972 1, provided any such project proposal is for a facility that has a  
973 nameplate capacity rating of more than two megawatts and less than  
974 twenty megawatts. The commissioner may also seek proposals for  
975 energy storage systems, as defined in section 16-1, that are capable of  
976 storing up to twenty megawatts of energy. Proposals pursuant to this  
977 subsection shall not have a contract term exceeding twenty years. Each  
978 electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1, and gas  
979 company, as defined in section 16-1, shall, in consultation with the  
980 Energy Conservation Management Board established pursuant to  
981 section 16-245m, assess whether the submission of a proposal for  
982 passive and active demand response measures is feasible pursuant to  
983 any solicitation issued pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection,  
984 provided such proposal only includes electric or gas demand reductions  
985 that are in addition to existing and projected demand reductions  
986 obtained through the conservation and load management programs.

987 (c) In any solicitation issued pursuant to this subsection, the  
988 commissioner shall seek proposals from (1) Class I renewable energy  
989 sources, as defined in section 16-1, having a nameplate capacity rating  
990 of twenty megawatts or more, and any associated transmission; and (2)  
991 verifiable large-scale hydropower, as defined in section 16-1, and any  
992 associated transmission. The commissioner may also seek proposals for  
993 energy storage systems, as defined in section 16-1, having a nameplate  
994 capacity rating of twenty megawatts or more. Proposals under this  
995 subsection shall not have a contract term exceeding twenty years. In  
996 soliciting Class I renewable energy sources, and any associated  
997 transmission, pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner may, for the  
998 purpose of balancing such Class I energy deliveries and improving the

999 economic viability of such proposals, also seek proposals for electricity  
1000 and capacity from Class II renewable energy sources, as defined in  
1001 section 16-1, and existing hydropower resources other than those  
1002 described under section 16-1, provided such resources are  
1003 interconnected to such associated transmission and are located in the  
1004 control area of the regional independent system operator or imported  
1005 into the control area of the regional independent system operator from  
1006 resources located in an adjacent regional independent system operator's  
1007 control area.

1008 (d) In any solicitation for natural gas resources issued pursuant to this  
1009 subsection, the commissioner shall seek proposals for (1) interstate  
1010 natural gas transportation capacity, (2) liquefied natural gas, (3)  
1011 liquefied natural gas storage, and (4) natural gas storage, or a  
1012 combination of any such resources, provided such proposals provide  
1013 incremental capacity, gas, or storage that has a firm delivery capability  
1014 to transport natural gas to natural gas-fired generating facilities located  
1015 in the control area of the regional independent system operator.  
1016 Proposals under this subsection shall not have a contract term exceeding  
1017 a period of twenty years.

1018 (e) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in  
1019 consultation with the procurement manager identified in subsection (l)  
1020 of section 16-2, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney  
1021 General, shall evaluate project proposals received under any solicitation  
1022 issued pursuant to subsection (b), (c) or (d) of this section, based on  
1023 factors including, but not limited to, (1) improvements to the reliability  
1024 of the electric system, including during winter peak demand; (2)  
1025 whether the benefits of the proposal outweigh the costs to ratepayers;  
1026 (3) fuel diversity; (4) the extent to which the proposal contributes to  
1027 meeting the requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and  
1028 improve air quality in accordance with sections 16-245a, 22a-174 [.] and  
1029 22a-200a; (5) whether the proposal is in the best interest of ratepayers;  
1030 and (6) whether the proposal is aligned with the policy goals outlined  
1031 in the Integrated Resources Plan, pursuant to section 16a-3a, and the

1032 Comprehensive Energy Strategy, pursuant to section 16a-3d, including,  
1033 but not limited to, environmental impacts. In conducting such  
1034 evaluation, the commissioner may also consider the extent to which  
1035 project proposals provide economic benefits for the state. In evaluating  
1036 project proposals received under any solicitation issued pursuant to  
1037 subsection (b), (c) or (d) of this section, the commissioner shall compare  
1038 the costs and benefits of such proposals relative to the expected or actual  
1039 costs and benefits of other resources eligible to respond to the other  
1040 procurements authorized pursuant to this section.

1041 (f) The commissioner may hire consultants with expertise in  
1042 quantitative modeling of electric and gas markets, and physical gas and  
1043 electric system modeling, as applicable, to assist in implementing this  
1044 section, including, but not limited to, the evaluation of proposals  
1045 submitted pursuant to this section. All reasonable costs, not exceeding  
1046 one million five hundred thousand dollars, associated with the  
1047 commissioner's solicitation and review of proposals pursuant to this  
1048 section shall be recoverable through the nonbypassable federally  
1049 mandated congestion charge, as defined in subsection (a) of section 16-  
1050 1. Such costs shall be recoverable even if the commissioner does not  
1051 select any proposals pursuant to solicitations issued pursuant to this  
1052 section.

1053 (g) If the commissioner finds proposals received pursuant to this  
1054 section to be in the best interest of [electric] ratepayers, in accordance  
1055 with the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, the commissioner  
1056 may select any such proposal or proposals, provided the total capacity  
1057 of the resources selected under all solicitations issued pursuant to this  
1058 section in the aggregate do not exceed three hundred seventy-five  
1059 million cubic feet per day of natural gas capacity, or the equivalent  
1060 megawatts of electricity, electric demand reduction or combination  
1061 thereof. Any proposals selected pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of  
1062 this section shall not, in the aggregate, exceed ten per cent of the load  
1063 distributed by the state's electric distribution companies or ten per cent  
1064 of the load distributed by the state's gas companies. The commissioner

1065 may, on behalf of all customers of electric distribution companies, direct  
1066 the electric distribution companies to enter into long-term contracts for  
1067 active or passive demand response measures that result in electric  
1068 savings, electricity time-of-use shifts, electricity, electric capacity,  
1069 environmental attributes, energy storage, interstate natural gas  
1070 transportation capacity, liquefied natural gas, liquefied natural gas  
1071 storage, and natural gas storage, or any combination thereof, from  
1072 proposals submitted pursuant to this section, provided the benefits of  
1073 such contracts to customers of electric distribution companies outweigh  
1074 the costs to such companies' customers. The commissioner may, on  
1075 behalf of the customers of gas companies, direct the gas companies to  
1076 enter into long-term contracts for active or passive demand response  
1077 measures that result in gas savings or time-of-use shifts from proposals  
1078 submitted pursuant to this section, provided the benefits of such  
1079 contracts to customers of gas companies outweigh the costs to such  
1080 companies' customers.

1081 (h) Any agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall be  
1082 subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory  
1083 Authority. The electric distribution company or gas company shall file  
1084 an application for the approval of any such agreement with the  
1085 authority. The authority shall approve such agreement if it is cost  
1086 effective and in the best interest of electric or gas ratepayers. The  
1087 authority shall issue a decision not later than ninety days after such  
1088 filing. If the authority does not issue a decision within ninety days after  
1089 such filing, the agreement shall be deemed approved. Where an electric  
1090 distribution company or gas company both apply for recovery of net  
1091 costs of the same such agreement, the authority shall determine which  
1092 net costs are attributable to each company. The net costs of any such  
1093 agreement, including costs incurred by the electric distribution  
1094 company or gas company under the agreement and reasonable costs  
1095 incurred by the electric distribution company in connection with the  
1096 agreement, shall be recovered on a timely basis through a fully  
1097 reconciling component of electric rates or gas rates for all customers of

1098 the electric distribution company or gas company. Any net revenues  
1099 from the sale of products purchased in accordance with long-term  
1100 contracts entered into pursuant to this section shall be credited to  
1101 customers through the same fully reconciling rate component for all  
1102 customers of the contracting electric distribution company. For any  
1103 contract for interstate natural gas transportation capacity, liquefied  
1104 natural gas, liquefied natural gas storage or natural gas storage entered  
1105 into pursuant to this section, the electric distribution company may  
1106 contract with a gas supply manager to sell such interstate natural gas  
1107 transportation capacity, liquefied natural gas, liquefied natural gas  
1108 storage or natural gas storage, or a combination thereof, into the  
1109 wholesale markets at the best available price in a manner that meets all  
1110 applicable requirements pursuant to all applicable regulations of the  
1111 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

1112 (i) Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation  
1113 Information System for any Class I renewable energy source or Class III  
1114 source procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this  
1115 section may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power Pool Generation  
1116 Information System renewable energy credit market to be used by any  
1117 electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet the  
1118 requirements of section 16-245a, so long as the revenues from such sale  
1119 are credited to electric distribution company customers as described in  
1120 this subsection; or (2) retained by the electric distribution company to  
1121 meet the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell  
1122 or retain such certificates the company shall select the option that is in  
1123 the best interest of such company's ratepayers.

1124 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) The Commissioner of  
1125 Energy and Environmental Protection shall develop a plan for the  
1126 installation of efficient heat pumps for affordable heating and cooling  
1127 systems in the state.

1128 (b) Such plan shall provide for the availability of affordable heat  
1129 pump options, with a focus on heat pump applications that have the

1130 greatest potential benefits, including, but not limited to, lowering  
1131 consumers' energy costs, reducing impacts to the electric grid and  
1132 improving building resilience, including, but not limited to, (1)  
1133 residences in environmental justice communities and long-term care  
1134 facilities where not less than eighty per cent of such residents are  
1135 Medicaid recipients in good financial standing with the state, (2) access  
1136 to energy-efficient affordable air conditioning for residents experiencing  
1137 high energy bills and health risks during heat waves, (3) increased  
1138 resilience during extreme heat events for homes and businesses, (4)  
1139 improved flood resilience for homes and businesses by enabling home  
1140 heating systems to be located above ground, and (5) low or no interest  
1141 loans to replace heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment to  
1142 residences impacted by extreme weather events. Such plan shall  
1143 describe how the state could best utilize any available or future grant or  
1144 loan funding. Not later than January 1, 2027, the commissioner shall  
1145 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
1146 general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General  
1147 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment and  
1148 energy on the status of such plan and any recommendations for  
1149 expanding or revising such plan.

1150       Sec. 10. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 15, 2026, the  
1151 chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall submit, in  
1152 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
1153 the results of a study to develop a solar canopy strategic plan and  
1154 program design to the joint standing committee of the General  
1155 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and  
1156 technology. The plan shall identify opportunities for solar canopies in  
1157 the state and shall prioritize the development of solar canopies in  
1158 environmental justice communities, as defined in section 22a-20a of the  
1159 general statutes. The plan shall include an examination of different ways  
1160 to promote solar canopies, including at schools, government buildings  
1161 and parking lots, and shall include recommendations for policies,  
1162 programs or regulations to promote the construction of solar canopies

1163 in the state, consistent with the greenhouse gas reduction goals  
1164 established in section 22a-200a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-48
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-86a(b)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	21a-86b
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3j
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To (1) amend certain energy and water efficiency standards, (2) require a study of certain energy and water efficiency standards, (3) require the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to initiate a docket to examine the future of natural gas in the state, (4) establish programs to incentivize the development of thermal energy networks, (5) increase electric and gas grid reliability and reduce electric and gas demand, and (6) incentivize the adoption of heat pumps and solar canopies.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*