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## Housing Committee

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# HB 3141

**Brief Description:** Concerning sustainable residential weatherization for low-income households.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Liias, Chase, Ericks, Loomis, Rolfes, Miloscia, Upthegrove, Appleton, Dickerson, Kenney and Ormsby.

### Brief Summary of Bill

- Directs the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (DCTED) to promote the use of sustainable technologies that are environmentally friendly in its low-income housing programs, including the Weatherization program.

**Hearing Date:** 1/28/08

**Staff:** Robyn Dupuis (786-7166).

### Background:

The Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (DCTED) operates the state Weatherization program which contracts with community non-profit agencies to make cost effective energy conservation improvements on low-income homes in order to reduce the utility costs of low-income families. On average, the weatherization of homes reduces home energy costs by 25 percent.

Weatherization services provided include:

- (a) ceiling, wall, floor and duct insulation;
- (b) diagnostically driven air sealing to close gaps where the home's heat can escape; and
- (c) heating system efficiency modifications.

The Weatherization program is funded through federal, state and private sources.

### Summary of Bill:

#### DCTED Weatherization Program

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

The DCTED must choose amongst proposals from agencies interested in participating in the DCTED Weatherization program so as to:

- (a) achieve the greatest possible energy savings by low-income households over the greatest period of time;
- (b) promote the greatest possible health and safety improvements for residents of low-income households; and
- (c) leverage, to the extent possible, technologically advanced and environmentally friendly sustainable technologies, practices, and designs.

The DCTED must encourage the utilization of fuels representing energy efficient sustainable technologies through the Weatherization program.

### **DCTED Housing Programs**

The DCTED is directed to continually strive, through all of its housing programs, to be a state leader in promoting and utilizing technologically advanced and environmentally friendly sustainable technologies, practices, and designs.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested 1/29/08.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.