

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 2375

DATE: March 10, 2014

Version: As amended by (H2375DE1)

Authors: Hortman

Subject: Miscellaneous energy provisions

Analyst: Bob Eleff

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

House File 2375 contains two provisions, the first of which allows a public utility, municipal utility, or cooperative electric association to collect on a utility's bill repayments on a loan obtained by a customer from a private or public entity to finance an energy efficiency improvement or enable a customer to use a renewable source of energy, and remit the repayments to the lender. The lender must enter into a contract with the utility that:

- requires the lender to comply with all applicable laws regarding lending practices and consumer protection;
- allows a public utility to purchase loans from the lender that revert to the lender in the case of delinquency or default; and
- provides that only the signatory to the loan is liable for the loan's outstanding balance, not a person who subsequently occupies the property on which the investment was made.

The utility's costs under this program may be recovered from ratepayers, and may be counted towards a utility's required Conservation Improvement Program spending. Energy savings resulting from these projects may be counted towards the utility's annual energy-savings goal.

The second provision of HF 2375 requires a utility to include in its Integrated Resource Plan filed with the Public Utilities Commission a discussion of the costs, barriers and opportunities that exist with respect to the utility's making progress in achieving the state's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and how the utility may address those factors.