

HB 1685 -- Energy Assurance Program

Sponsor: Oxford

This bill requires the Missouri Public Service Commission to implement an energy assurance program pilot project by October 1, 2006. Eligibility for the program is limited to households with an income of less than 125% of the federal poverty level. The program allows participants to pay current heating bills based upon a percentage of their income and to earn credits to be used toward all or part of their pre-program debts. The program will provide conservation education to participants targeted as high energy users. The commission must provide an evaluation of the project and make their report available to the General Assembly no later than January 1, 2007, and every January 1 thereafter. The commission will work with electric utilities and gas companies serving customers in Missouri to meet the requirements of the bill.

The provisions of the bill will expire six years from the effective date.