

# SUPPORT HB 3 / SB 5

Topic: Income-qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force  
Bill Patrons: Del. Levere Bolling and Sen. Locke

## OVERVIEW:

Establishes the Income-Qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force to improve coordination across utilities, state agencies, and federal, municipal, and private funding sources to more effectively deliver energy efficiency, weatherization, and weatherization-ready repairs for income-qualified Virginians. The taskforce is required to develop actionable solutions that lower household energy costs and improve housing quality for unserved households by 2035.

## REASONS TO SUPPORT:

- High utility bills are forcing Virginians to make choices between essentials like groceries and medication and keeping their homes at safe temperatures during extreme heat and cold. One in four Virginia households is energy insecure, meaning they face shutoffs or shutoff notices, unsafe indoor temperatures, or lack functioning HVAC.
- Renters and manufactured home residents are disproportionately impacted. Manufactured homes have much higher energy burdens than site-built homes, and renters often live in older, less efficient housing. *Nearly 60% of low-income households are renter-occupied, limiting access to efficiency upgrades without landlord participation.*
- Weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades improve affordability. Weatherization-ready repairs and whole-home efficiency retrofits lower monthly utility bills and improve health, comfort, and safety. *More than 210,000 low-income Virginia households spend an unsustainable share of their income on energy bills, making them strong candidates for weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades.*
- Coordination gaps limit impact. Utilities, state agencies, advocates, and weatherization providers are working on this issue, but fragmented data, misaligned programs, and inconsistent funding prevent solutions from reaching households most in need.
- State leadership is needed. This task force will coordinate agencies, utilities, and funding sources to close the gap in homes that still need energy-efficiency retrofits to improve their housing quality and lower their energy costs.



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This position was taken by Virginia Conservation Network (VCN)'s Legislative Committee and Board of Directors and is supported by Virginia's conservation community. For a complete list of VCN positions, visit [www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker](http://www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker). VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated conservation movement focused on protecting our Commonwealth's natural resources today and for tomorrow.