

Subject Grants for Electric Panel Upgrades

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Date March 6, 2023

Overview

House File 849, as amended by H0849DE1, creates a program in the Department of Commerce to award grants to owners of residential buildings to upgrade the buildings' electrical panels.

Summary

Section Description

1 **[216C.45] Residential electric panel upgrade grant.**

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines terms, including “electric panel,” and “upgrade.” Defines “eligible applicant” as an owner of a single-family home whose household income does not exceed 150 percent of the area median income, or an owner of a multifamily building in which at least half meet that income limit.

Subd. 2. Program establishment. Establishes the grant program in the Department of Commerce.

Subd. 3. Application process. Requires a written application on a form developed by the commissioner.

Subd. 4. Grant awards. Provides that grants may be awarded to the building owner or a contractor or third party with written permission from the owner.

Subd. 5. Grant amount. The maximum grant award in a single-family home is \$4,000 or \$6,000, depending on family household income. The maximum grant award in a multifamily building is \$9,500, plus \$500 for each unit receiving an upgrade, up to a maximum of \$50,000.

Subd. 6. Limitation. Specifies that only one grant can be awarded to an owner of a specific building.

Subd. 7. Outreach. Requires the Department of Commerce to publicize the availability of grants under the program.

Section	Description
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Subd. 8. Contractor and subcontractor requirements. Requires contractors and subcontractors performing work under a grant to pay at least the state prevailing wage and be subject to statutes that enforce that provision and other employer requirements.

Subd. 9. Report. Requires the department to report annually to the legislature on program activities.

2 **Appropriations.**

Appropriates a blank amount from the general fund that must be used for grants only to properties located outside the electric service territory of Xcel Energy.

Appropriates a blank amount from the renewable development account that must be used for grants only to properties located within the electric service territory of Xcel Energy.



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