

CHAPTER 270

AN ACT providing for reviews and increases of income thresholds for certain utility bill payment assistance and energy efficiency programs.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Within one year of the effective date of P.L.2025, c.270, the Department of Community Affairs, Department of Human Services, Board of Public Utilities, and any other State agency that administers a utility bill payment assistance program or energy efficiency program active upon the effective date of P.L.2025, c.270 shall review the income threshold for residential customers to participate in those programs, and increase the income threshold if the department, board, or agency determines an increase to be appropriate. A review completed pursuant to this section shall consider factors such as the alignment of separate low-income and moderate-income income thresholds used across programs and agencies, the use of alternate income thresholds, including State median income, and the aggregate cost and impacts of the increased income thresholds. A State agency shall request public comment, in a form and manner determined by that State agency, or seek assistance from other State agencies, to determine an appropriate increase to the program's income threshold. If an increase in income thresholds for the State's low-income energy efficiency programs is ordered, the Board of Public Utilities shall assess if further guidance is necessary to change income thresholds in the utilities' triennium energy efficiency and peak demand reduction programs for moderate-income energy efficiency programs to ensure that low- and moderate-income customers are eligible for only one energy efficiency assistance program and to expand access to moderate-income programs, if appropriate.

2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire upon the date of the final income threshold increase required of a State agency.

Approved January 12, 2026.