

**SENATE, No. 3834**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**221st LEGISLATURE**

---

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 24, 2024

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 32 (Hudson)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Directs BPU to establish rebate program for purchase of zero-emission lawn equipment.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning lawn equipment and supplementing Title 48 of  
2 the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, regulation, or order to the  
8 contrary, beginning with the next comprehensive resource analysis  
9 conducted pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section 12 of  
10 P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-60) following the date of enactment of this  
11 section, the board shall establish a program to provide rebates to  
12 residents and businesses for the purchase of zero-emission lawn  
13 equipment. In establishing the program, the board shall take into  
14 consideration the environmental benefits of reducing the use of gas-  
15 powered lawn equipment in the State.

16 b. The board shall determine the appropriate level of funding from  
17 the societal benefits charge for the rebate program, and shall calculate  
18 the dollar amount of individual rebates, to be offered to residents and  
19 businesses thereunder, based on the sale price of the zero-emission  
20 lawn equipment purchased thereby. The rebate amount offered shall  
21 be calculated as follows:

22 (1) for the purchase of zero-emission lawn equipment costing \$250  
23 or less, the rebate amount shall equal 25 percent of the cost of the  
24 device or \$50, whichever is less;

25 (2) for the purchase of zero-emission lawn equipment costing more  
26 than \$250, but less than \$500, the rebate amount shall equal 25 percent  
27 of the cost of the device or \$100, whichever is less; and

28 (3) for the purchase of zero-emission lawn equipment costing more  
29 than \$500, the rebate amount shall equal 25 percent of the cost of the  
30 device or \$150, whichever is less.

31 c. The board shall adopt, pursuant to the “Administrative  
32 Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and  
33 regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act. An  
34 eligible purchaser of zero-emission lawn equipment may apply for a  
35 rebate under the program established pursuant to this section, in a form  
36 and manner prescribed by the board in the rules or regulations adopted  
37 pursuant to this subsection. The board shall advertise the availability  
38 of rebates offered pursuant to this section, in the same manner in  
39 which it advertises the availability of incentives for the purchase of  
40 energy efficient appliances through the New Jersey Clean Energy  
41 Program.

42 d. As used in this section:

43 “Board” means the Board of Public Utilities.

44 “Gas-powered lawn equipment” means lawn equipment that uses  
45 gasoline or a gasoline and oil blend as fuel.

46 “Lawn equipment” means equipment that is used for, or intended  
47 to be used for, the mowing of grass, the cutting or chipping of trees,  
48 tree roots, or tree branches, or the clearing of leaves or other

1 vegetation from lawns, sidewalks, public streets or public highways.  
2 “Lawn equipment” shall include, but not be limited to, lawn mowers  
3 and lawn mower attachments, lawn edgers, leaf blowers, leaf vacuums,  
4 mulchers, chippers, pruners, trimmers, chainsaws, power washers, and  
5 snow blowers.

6 “Zero-emission lawn equipment” means lawn equipment that is  
7 powered by a battery, fuel cell, or other means of energy production  
8 that does not result in the emission of carbon dioxide.

9  
10 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

11  
12  
13 STATEMENT

14  
15 This bill would direct the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to  
16 establish a rebate program, for the purchase of zero-emission lawn  
17 equipment, using funding obtained through the societal benefits  
18 charge. In establishing the rebate program, the BPU would be directed  
19 to take into consideration the environmental benefits of reducing the  
20 use of gas-powered lawn equipment in the State.

21 The bill would further require the BPU to determine the  
22 appropriate level of funding for the rebate program, and to additionally  
23 calculate the dollar amount of the individual rebates, issued  
24 thereunder, based on the sale price of the zero-emission lawn  
25 equipment device purchased by residents or businesses, as follows:

26 (1) for the purchase of zero-emission lawn equipment costing \$250  
27 or less, the amount of the rebate is to equal 25 percent of the cost of  
28 the device or \$50, whichever is less;

29 (2) for the purchase of zero-emission lawn equipment costing \$500  
30 or less, the amount of the rebate is to equal 25 percent of the cost of  
31 the device or \$100, whichever is less; and

32 (3) for the purchase of zero-emission lawn equipment costing over  
33 \$500, the amount of the rebate is to equal 25 percent of the cost of the  
34 device or \$150, whichever is less.

35 The BPU would be required to advertise the availability of rebates,  
36 being offered under the program, in the same manner in which it  
37 advertises the availability of incentives for the purchase of energy  
38 efficient appliances through the New Jersey Clean Energy Program.