



# WAP Planning and Action Committee Meeting

## Agenda:

Summary – Reauthorization

Regional Break-out Sessions



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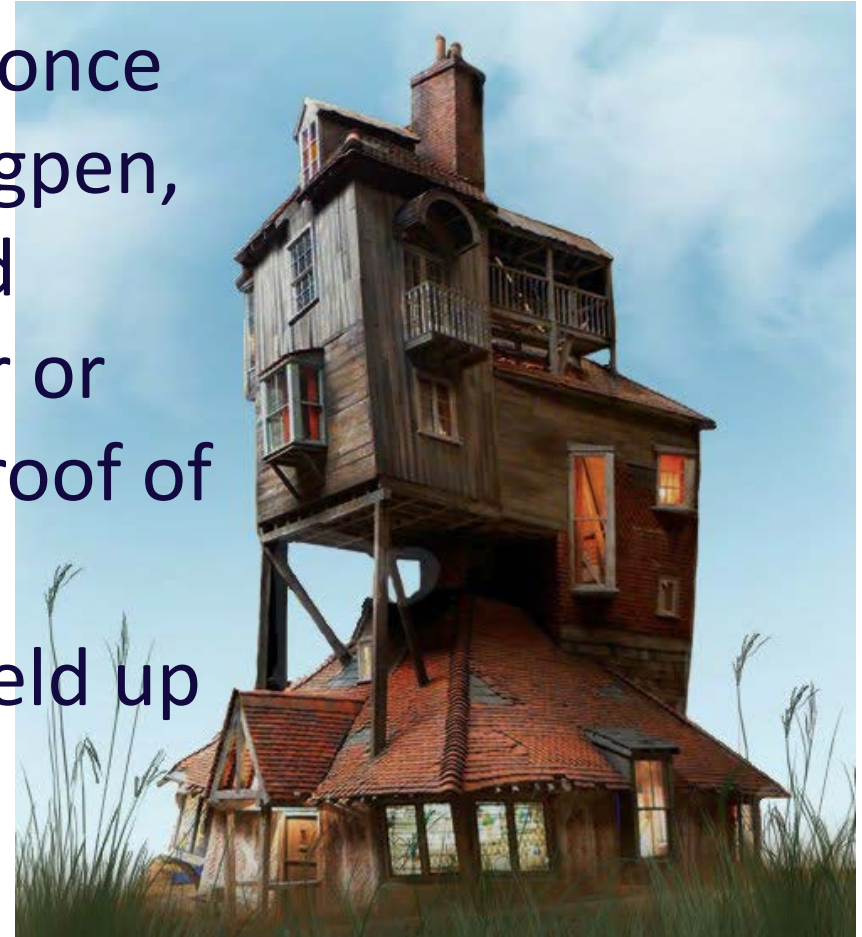
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR STATE COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS

# **Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015**

**Reauthorization of the  
Weatherization Assistance Program**

# The Weasley House

“The building itself might once have been an old stone pigpen, which had several crooked stories attached to it. Four or five chimneys dotted the roof of the house, and the entire building was most likely held up by magic due to its crazy construction.”

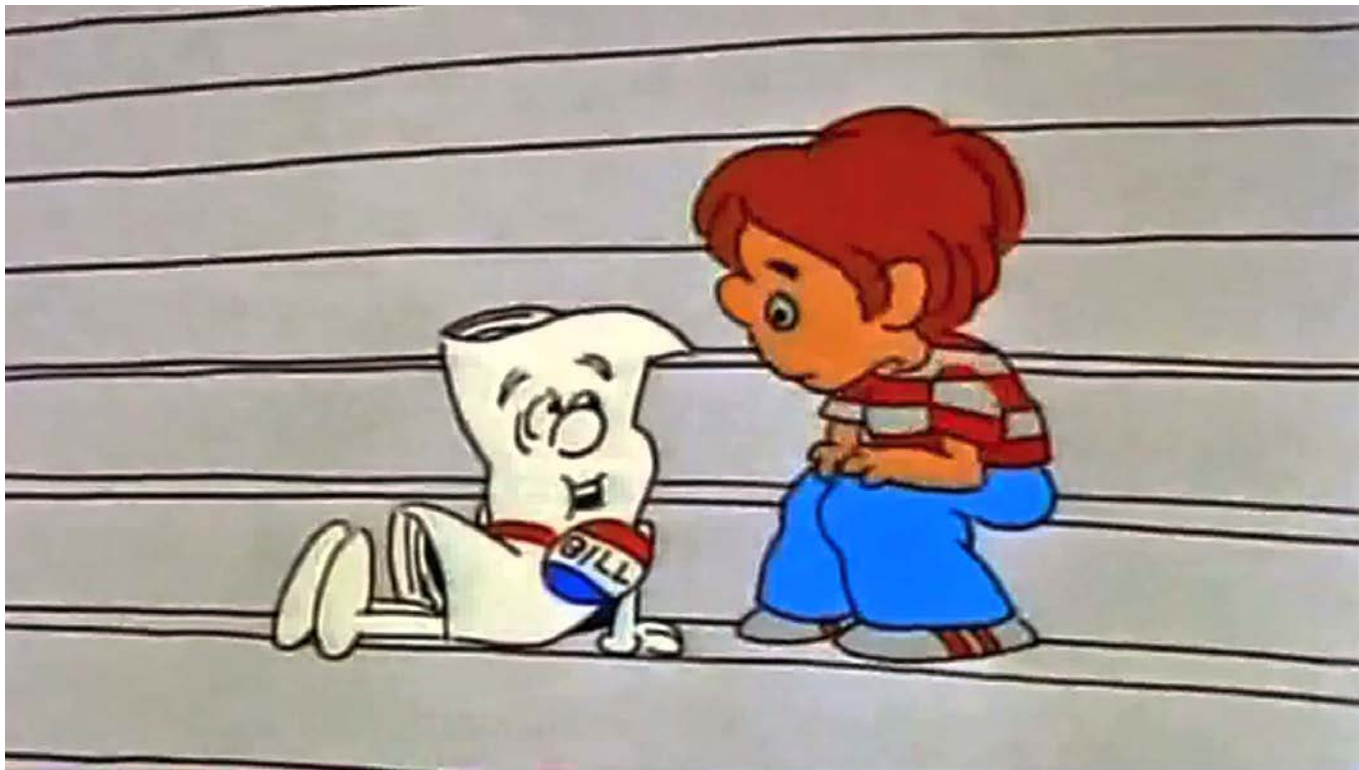


- Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

# Reauthorization – what is it?

- Gives WAP the legal authority to operate and exist
- Authorizes the enactment of appropriations
- Specifies how funds are to be used
- Reauthorization vs. Appropriations

# Who recognizes this?



# How could this Bill becomes a law?



Out of  
committee

Full Senate

House of  
Representatives

... **POTUS**

# Update

- July 30 –ENR Committee sent a comprehensive energy Bill to full Senate
  - Lee Amendment was never introduced
  - “no less than” language is still in
    - Manager’s Amendment is expected
- Not expected to pass – too expensive
- Next year...

# Key Provisions - General

- \$350,000,000 for Weatherization for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020
- Establishes grants for new, self-sustaining low-income single and multi family housing retrofit model programs to eligible multi-state housing and energy organizations



# Key Provisions – Funding Split

- The Reauthorization essentially splits the national Weatherization program into a formula-based program and a competitive set-aside program.
  
- The Secretary shall use to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 **not less than—**
  - 2 percent of the amount if the amount is less than \$225,000,000;
  - 5 percent of the amount if the amount is \$225,000,000 or more but less than \$260,000,000;
  - 10 percent of the amount if the amount is \$260,000,000 or more.

# Key Provisions – Purpose of Competitive Set-Aside Funds

“The purpose of the competitive set-aside is to promote innovation and new models of retrofitting low-income homes through new Federal partnerships with covered organizations that leverage substantial donations, donated materials, volunteer labor, homeowner labor equity, and other private sector resources.”

# Key Provisions – Eligible Uses of Grant Funds

- A grant under this section may be used for—
  - energy efficiency audits, cost-effective retrofit, and related activities
  - energy efficiency materials and supplies;
  - **organizational capacity—**
    - to significantly increase the number of energy retrofits;
    - to replicate an energy retrofit program in other States; and
    - to ensure that the program is self-sustaining after the Federal grant funds are expended;
  - energy efficiency, audit and retrofit training, and ongoing technical assistance;
  - information to homeowners on proper maintenance and energy savings behaviors;
  - quality control and improvement;
  - data collection, measurement, and verification;
  - program monitoring, oversight, evaluation, and reporting;
  - management and administration (up to a maximum of 10 percent of the total grant);
  - labor and training activities; and
  - such other activities as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

# Key Provisions – Guidelines for Competitive Funds



- Issued by Secretary of Energy. The guidelines for the competitive program —
- Do not apply to WAP.
- **May** rely on applicable provisions of law governing the Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons to establish—
  - standards for allowable expenditures;
  - a minimum savings-to-investment ratio
  - standards—
    - to carry out training programs;
    - to conduct energy audits and program activities;
    - to provide technical assistance;
    - to monitor program activities; and
    - to verify energy and cost savings;
    - liability insurance requirements; and
    - recordkeeping requirements.

# Key Provisions – Standards Program Summary

- Section (f) details a “standards program” made up of three parts:
  1. Contractor Qualifications
  2. Grants for Energy Retrofit Programs
  3. Minimum Efficiency Standards

# Key Provisions – Standards Program

## 1. Contractor Qualifications

- Outdated language, inserted to help contractors break into Weatherization.
- References Resnet, BPI
- Gives states authority to set qualifications for contractors if approved by Secretary

# Key Provisions – Standards Program

## 2. Grants for Energy Retrofit Programs

- Strangely, talks about crew chief qualifications, and no one else.
- Volunteers are not required to be certified unless “directly installing or repairing mechanical equipment or other items that require skilled labor.”
- Establishes T&TA funds

# Key Provisions: Standards Program

## 3. Minimum Efficiency Standards

- Work standards are established by the Secretary
- States that at least 10 percent of completed units must be monitored
- The standards must meet or exceed the industry standards for home performance work that are in effect on the date of enactment of this subsection, as determined by the Secretary



# What is next?

NASCSP will use the dialogue today and at this conference to inform our advocacy efforts.

New mantra: Get involved and stay involved. Be prepared to write it OUR way.

Regional Discussion Groups to follow.



**Hello**  
my name is

the one you should be  
calling for all things  
weatherization.

# Questions?

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