



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

March 24, 2026

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H.718 – An act relating to building energy efficiency

As recommended by the House Committee on Appropriations^{1,i}

Bill Summary

This bill would make various changes to the development, enforcement, and administration of residential and commercial building energy standards.

Section 3 would establish the Residential Contractor Registry Task Force to study strategies for improving the existing residential contractor registry, expediting the creation of certain voluntary professional certifications, and assessing potential changes to the regulation of residential contractors. Task Force members would be eligible for per diem compensation and expense reimbursement for a minimum of 11 meetings in fiscal year 2027. Payments to Task Force members would be paid from monies appropriated to the Office Professional Regulation (OPR).

As recommended by the House Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure, Section 13 would make General Fund appropriations to the Department of Public Service (PSD) to assist municipalities that elect to adopt and enforce the Residential and Commercial Building Energy Standards, and to OPR to support the Task Force and implement its recommendations.

Fiscal Impact

The House Committee on Appropriations' recommendation removes the appropriations from the bill and inserts language to make PSD's duty to implement the Residential and Commercial Building Energy Standards Task Force contingent upon an appropriation in fiscal year 2027 for this purpose.

ⁱ The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be accessed through a bill number search on the JFO page.

¹ The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) is a nonpartisan legislative office dedicated to producing unbiased fiscal analysis – this fiscal note is meant to provide information for legislative consideration, not to provide policy recommendations.