



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

March 27, 2026

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S.219 – An act relating to an energy navigator program report

As passed by the Senate^{1,i}

Bill Summary

This bill would direct the Department of Public Service (PSD) to contract with a third-party consultant to design a community-based home energy navigator and coaching program for residential consumers. This program would provide in-person and remote energy coaching services to residential consumers on topics such as weatherization, home energy efficiency, clean energy investments, and project financing. The bill would direct PSD to develop this program in consultation with the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County and similar navigator programs statewide.

On or before March 1, 2027, PSD would submit a report on program design to the House Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy. This report would include descriptions of potential program structures, estimated energy and emissions savings, estimated program costs, and funding sources.

Fiscal Impact

As recommended by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, Section 2 would appropriate \$25,000 in fiscal year 2027 from the General Fund to PSD to hire a third-party consultant for report preparation and \$10,000 to the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County to collaborate with PSD on energy navigator program design. The Senate, upon recommendation of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, removed the appropriations from the bill and inserted language to make PSD's duty to hire a consultant and to grant funding to the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County contingent upon an appropriation in fiscal year 2027 for these purposes.

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.*