



Healthy Homes Act: Consumer Choice, Lower Utility Bills, Improved Health & Less Climate Pollution

The Healthy Homes Act (B25-0119) would empower 30,000 low- and moderate-income families to receive home upgrades, weatherization, and highly efficient electric equipment like heat pumps at no cost. This would reduce energy burdens across the District.

CONSUMER CHOICE: The Healthy Homes Act empowers DC residents to transition their homes off expensive and polluting fossil fuels.

- The Healthy Homes Act is 100% voluntary and is designed to help the tens of thousands of DC residents today who are stuck with aging, polluting fossil fuel equipment.
- The Healthy Homes Act would give low- and middle-income residents a choice not only to better weatherize and improve their homes, but to adopt the healthiest, most efficient equipment available.

LOWER UTILITY BILLS: Home electrification can save people in DC apartments and condos \$500 to \$600 a year in utility bills and can save single-family households up to \$1,000 annually.

DC families will save money from switching from fossil fuels to efficient electric systems

- Research by the [Building Electrification Institute](#) has shown that fully electrifying a multifamily building in DC will save \$500 to \$600 dollars per unit annually in energy costs. Existing single family homes can save up to \$1,000 dollars annually on their utilities bills.
- Home energy efficiency company [Zwell](#) found that a family of four in DC would save \$148 per year by switching from gas water heating to a heat pump water heater.
- According to [Zwell](#), owners of a two story single family home in DC heated with gas boilers could save \$672 annually by switching from gas to highly efficient heat pumps.

Staying on fossil fuels would cost DC billions of dollars

- Gas customers have faced years of volatile fossil fuel prices driving up their monthly energy bills and gas prices are projected to continue increasing. On top of that, Washington Gas wants to waste billions of dollars on gas pipeline spending projects (which it calls “Project Pipes”), and to pass that cost on to customers, driving gas bills to unaffordable heights.

The Healthy Homes Act will cut utility bills for DC families through energy efficiency

- The Healthy Homes Act will save low- and middle-income households money on their monthly energy bills by improving weatherization, insulation, and energy efficiency while covering the cost of highly-efficient electric heat pumps.





IMPROVED HEALTH: When burned, methane gas emits noxious fumes that cause significant health impacts. Electric appliances would remove a major source of indoor air pollution from DC homes.

- Appliances that burn methane gas fill our homes with many of the [same pollutants as car exhaust](#) – carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), particulate matter, and formaldehyde.
- Children in homes with gas appliances have a [42% increased risk of developing asthma](#).
- Children who are Black or low-income are disproportionately impacted by indoor air pollution. Children in Ward 8 are [ten times more likely to go to the hospital](#) because of an asthma attack than children in wealthier areas of DC.
- Electric appliances produce zero on-site emissions and do not pollute indoor air.

LESS CLIMATE POLLUTION: DC has committed to transition off fossil fuels, and the Healthy Homes Act will speed the transition to clean energy and energy efficiency.

- Burning methane gas in DC's buildings is responsible for [more than one quarter](#) of the District's climate pollution. Replacing fossil fuel equipment would eliminate on-site emissions entirely, which is why upgrading homes with clean energy is considered the best, most cost-effective strategy to reduce building emissions.
- Replacing a gas furnace with an electric heat pump cuts climate pollution from the average DC home by [31%](#) in the first year and [70%](#) over the lifetime of the equipment, according to analysis from RMI based on the mix of DC's current electric grid.
- DC is on target to achieve 100% clean electricity by 2032. As DC adds more clean energy to its electric mix, the emissions reduction impact of heat pumps will increase.
- Methane gas, which can have over 80 times the climate impact of carbon dioxide, leaks and pollutes at enormous rates throughout the supply chain.

FUNDING: The Healthy Homes Act was fully funded in the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget – and it's time for DC residents to start receiving cost-saving and health benefits of transitioning off fossil fuels.

- The Healthy Homes Act builds on dedicated federal funding from the Inflation Reduction Act to help lower the cost of adopting induction stoves, heat pumps, and necessary upgrades such as electrical rewiring and improved insulation.
- The Healthy Homes Act is funded independently by a small surcharge on utility bills. This revenue source will provide tens of millions of dollars a year for Healthy Homes, so the legislation will not compete with other funding needs.

