

THE PROBLEM

Inefficient home heating and cooling equipment contribute to high home energy costs, harmful air pollution and unnecessary strain on the electric grid.

CURRENT POLICY STATUS

Through EnergizeCT, several heat pump and home energy efficiency rebate programs are available for most CT homeowners.

Most programs do not benefit those in rental units. Often these populations pay more for utility service.

LEGISLATIVE SOLUTIONS

- **Support and increase funding for the energy efficiency program**, and require a minimum level of funding to be set aside for low-income households and renters.
- **Establish a heat pump hot water heater program** that will promote a more rapid adoption of heat pump water heaters.
- **Re-establish a zero-interest financing program for home electrification upgrades** to enable more families to afford the upfront costs of home electrification.
- **Require new buildings to use efficient heating and cooling appliances.**
- **Enhance the zero percent micro-loan program for low to moderate income households**, add contractor installation incentives, and create a demand response program.

MORE INFORMATION

ConsumerReports.org/appliances/heat-pumps

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Lower Costs: In most cases, switching from oil and gas heating to a heat pump system lowers monthly utility costs between **20% and 50%**.

Heat pump hot water heaters are 3 to 4 times more efficient than standard electric and gas models and can save a family of four up to **\$550 per year**.



Equity: Low-income households spend up to **5 times more on energy** than the average household, largely due to inefficient, drafty rental housing and outdated heating and cooling equipment.



Public Health: Burning gas, oil, and propane in furnaces and water heaters generates 23% of Connecticut's nitrogen oxide (NOx) pollution. This pollution contributes to health costs associated with asthma & chronic diseases.



Note: Maximizing heat pump benefits requires improving home efficiency first, including insulation and air sealing.