

**HOUSE BILL NO. 334**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE PETERSEN

Introduced: 2/20/12

Referred: House Special Committee on Energy, Labor and Commerce

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act allowing a public utility to bill and collect certain payments for energy  
2 efficiency loans made by a third-party financial institution; relating to the duties of the  
3 Alaska Housing Finance Corporation; and providing for an effective date."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 42.05 is amended by adding a new section to article 4 to read:

6 **Sec. 42.05.445. Utility bill loan repayment.** (a) The commission shall allow a  
7 public utility that furnishes, by transmission or distribution, petroleum, petroleum  
8 products, natural or manufactured gas, or electrical service to the public for  
9 consumption to enter into an agreement with a financial institution at the request of a  
10 borrower for the purpose of allowing the utility to add, as a separate charge, an  
11 installment payment of a loan made in accordance with this section onto the utility bill  
12 of a borrower who is also a customer of the utility. The public utility may also add, as  
13 a separate charge, the cost of administering the loan.

14 (b) To qualify for the loan repayment method established under (a) of this

1 section, a borrower shall obtain an energy audit performed by an energy rater  
2 approved under regulations adopted by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. The  
3 cost of the audit shall be borne by the borrower. The energy rater shall, under  
4 regulations adopted by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, perform an on-site  
5 inspection of the home and estimate the cost of

6 (1) increasing the energy efficiency of a borrower's home or business;

7 or

8 (2) replacing an existing appliance in the borrower's home or business  
9 with an appliance that consumes less energy, as determined by the Federal Trade  
10 Commission Appliance EnergyGuide Label rating.

11 (c) A financial institution making a loan using the repayment method  
12 established under this section shall require the borrower to certify that the entire loan  
13 amount will be used to

14 (1) increase energy efficiency in the borrower's home or business; or

15 (2) replace an existing appliance in the borrower's home or business  
16 with an appliance that consumes less energy, as determined by the Federal Trade  
17 Commission Appliance EnergyGuide Label rating.

18 \* **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2013.