

ASSEMBLY HOUSING COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5165

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 18, 2023

The Assembly Housing Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 5165.

As amended, this bill makes clarifications concerning the use of certain hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) in building and manufacturing processes and allows manufacturers who use HFCs in their products to begin a more efficient and orderly phasedown of their use based on the federal guidelines, while still implementing the changes needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This bill provides that any refrigerant listed as acceptable by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) under the "Significant New Alternatives Policy" program pursuant to 42 U.S.C. s.7671k is not to be prohibited under the "State Uniform Construction Code," P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.), or local code, provided that any equipment using the refrigerant is listed and installed pursuant to the USEPA's safety standards and use conditions.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to eliminate broad language prohibiting any law, regulation, or other requirement in the State from limiting the use of refrigerants designated as acceptable by the USEPA and replaces that language to instead prohibit any "local code" from limiting their use.