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**Sent:** Friday, November 09, 2012 8:33 PM  
**To:** info@communitycouncils.org  
**Subject:** FW: From the Desk of Senator Johnny Ellis: Weatherization & Energy Efficiency, Senator Begich Town Hall

Pls fwd to CPCC

PETER HAMLETT

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From: Senator\_Johnny\_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us  
To: Senator\_Johnny\_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us  
Subject: From the Desk of Senator Johnny Ellis: Weatherization & Energy Efficiency, Senator Begich Town Hall  
Date: Fri, 9 Nov 2012 18:54:40 +0000

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**SENATOR  
JOHNNY ELLIS**  
Working hard  
Solving problems  
Getting things done  
716 W 4th Ave., Suite 500  
Anchorage, AK 99501

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012

## Ellis on Weatherization and Energy Efficiency, Senator Begich Hosts Veterans Town Hall

*From Senior Voice, Vol.35 No.11:  
Weatherization, energy efficiency help seniors save*

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## SENIOR VOICE

Serving Older Alaskans and Their Families Since 1978

A publication of Older Persons Action Group, Inc., 325 E. Third Ave., Suite 300, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Vol. 35 No. 11 November 2013

### Weatherization, energy efficiency help seniors save

By SEN. JOHNNY ELLIS

Alaskans face the highest energy costs in the nation yet live in a state with immense oil wealth. It makes all the sense in the world to invest a portion of that wealth into insulating and increasing the efficiency of Alaskan homes.

As a member of the Senate Finance Committee I was proud to see \$31.5 million included in the budget to fund Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's Weatherization Program and \$20 million allocated to the Home Energy Rebate Program. These popular programs, second only to the Alaska Permanent Fund, have successfully lowered heating costs and improved living conditions for thousands of Alaskans around the

state. I encourage you to use the information below and start saving on your heating bills.

#### Weatherization

The Weatherization Program provides free energy efficient home improvements to qualified low and moderate income Alaskans. Income levels vary for different parts of Alaska, however eligibility was recently expanded to increase the number of qualifying applicants.

Following qualification, applicants will be placed on the list to receive their renovations. Typically, improvements to heat loss areas such as doors, windows and insulation will be made and can make a significant difference in the overall ef-

iciency and comfort of a home. Thousands of homes have already been upgraded and the continued popularity and bipartisan support of the effort will ensure thousands more are completed.

#### Energy Rebate

While the state Weatherization Program is reserved for those who meet income guidelines, the Home Energy Rebate Program is available to all applicants, regardless of income. In contrast to the weatherization program, the costs of improvements are paid for by the home owner and a percentage of the overall cost is reimbursed by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation.

Those wishing to participate in the program should

call 1-877-AK-REBATE (1-877-257-5228) to find an energy rater. The rater will suggest home improvements and the homeowner will have 18 months to complete the projects in order to qualify for rebates. Following the upgrades, another energy rater will be conducted to ensure improved efficiency. Properly completed upgrades will lead to lower energy bills and can even lead to a reduced mortgage rate for qualified applicants.

Thousands of Alaskans

have already benefited from efficiency improvements to their homes and have saved an average of over \$1,500 a year on their energy costs. I encourage you to act now to improve your homes for the future.

For more information:  
• Weatherization and Home Energy Rebate Program's: [www.akrcfm.com](http://www.akrcfm.com)  
• Energy Rating Hotline: 1-877-AK-REBATE  
• Alaska Affordable Heating Program: [heating@aklegis.gov](mailto:heating@aklegis.gov) or 1-800-470-3008

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Those wishing to participate in the program should call 1-877-AK-REBATE to find an energy rater. The rater will suggest home improvements and the home owner will have 18 months to complete the projects in order to qualify for rebates. Following the upgrades, another energy rating will be conducted to ensure improved efficiency. Properly completed upgrades will lead to lower energy bills and can even lead to a reduced mortgage rate for qualified applicants.

Thousands of Alaskans have already benefited from efficiency improvements to their homes and have saved an average of over \$1500 a year on their energy costs. I encourage you to act now to improve your homes for the future.

### For more information:

- Weatherization and Home Energy Rebate Program's: [www.akrebate.com](http://www.akrebate.com)
- Energy Rating Hotline: 1-877-AK-REBATE
- Alaska Affordable Heating Program: [heatinghelp.alaska.gov](http://heatinghelp.alaska.gov) or 1-800-470-3058



Senator Johnny Ellis

**PS. Senator Begich is hosting a Veterans Town Hall at Begich Middle School this Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 1:45 to 3:00. Stop by to discuss key Congressional issues facing Alaska veterans hosted by U.S. Senator Mark Begich, member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.**

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