

Washington, DC -- U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) today announced over \$517 million in federal funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (the Recovery Bill) for New York State to provide weatherization and energy efficiency grants to local communities.

“These Recovery Bill funds will help local families cut energy costs, while at the same time putting people to work weatherizing area homes and businesses,” **Arcuri said**. “Since taking office, I’ve been fighting to help families and businesses find relief from high energy costs, and I am pleased to see the Recovery Bill delivering results to our region so quickly.”

The Recovery Bill, which was signed into law earlier this month, will direct over \$394 million for weatherization assistance and over \$123 million for state energy programs to New York State.

The Weatherization Assistance Program will allow an average investment of up to \$6,500 per home in energy efficiency upgrades and will be available for families making up to 200% of the federal poverty level – or about \$44,000 a year for a family of four. Home weatherization includes adding more insulation, sealing leaks and modernizing heating and air conditioning equipment. Weatherization Assistance Program allows working families to reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient, reducing heating bills by an average of 32% and overall energy bills by hundreds of dollars per year.

The State Energy Program funding may be used by New York State for such things as rebates to consumers for home energy audits or other energy saving improvements; development of renewable energy projects for clean electricity generation and alternative fuels; promotion of Energy Star products; efficiency upgrades for state and local government buildings; and other innovative state efforts to help save families money on their energy bills.

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