

**CITY of ALBUQUERQUE  
TWENTY FOURTH COUNCIL**

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-20-89 ENACTMENT NO. R-2020-096

SPONSORED BY: Klarissa J. Peña

1 RESOLUTION  
2 CREATING A GRACE PERIOD FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2018  
3 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE; AND DESIGNATING  
4 FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR AN ENERGY  
5 EFFICIENCY RETROFIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR LOW INCOME  
6 HOUSEHOLDS.

7 WHEREAS, on August 3<sup>rd</sup> the City of Albuquerque adopted the 2018  
8 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to replace their 2009 version of  
9 the IECC via O-20-12; and

10 WHEREAS, this code was adopted without a grace period; and

11 WHEREAS, builders who are currently designing projects under the 2009  
12 IECC may not be aware that their projects now need to be designed to the  
13 2018 IECC standard; and

14 WHEREAS, a grace period will allow builders time to adapt to the new code  
15 requirements; and

16 WHEREAS, there will be cost savings over time related to energy efficiency  
17 for a home built to the 2018 IECC standard in terms of utility bills; and

18 WHEREAS, Nationwide, low-income households spend a much greater  
19 share of their income on energy utility bills, referred to as “energy burden.” In  
20 New Mexico, low-income households below the federal poverty level (FPL) pay  
21 an average of 13% of their income towards energy utility bills. Households that  
22 pay more than 12% of income on utility bills are referred to as being in “energy  
23 poverty”; and

24 WHEREAS, some New Mexico counties, including Bernalillo County, have  
25 census tracts where the average low-income or middle-income family has an  
26 energy burden of over 18%; and

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1       **WHEREAS, Federal cash assistance programs available for qualifying low-**  
2 **income households to pay their energy bills (Low-Income Home Energy**  
3 **Assistance Program) and to complete weatherization improvements**  
4 **(EnergySmart Program) only address a fraction of the problem; and**

5       **WHEREAS, the inability for low income households to make energy**  
6 **efficiency improvements and reduce utility bill costs can result in increased**  
7 **vulnerability to foreclosure or necessity to sell the home, opening the path for**  
8 **possible gentrification in these neighborhoods; and**

9       **WHEREAS, a recent survey of 50 households in the South Valley of**  
10 **Albuquerque showed that that sixty-five percent of the surveyed households**  
11 **reported having to choose between paying their energy bill and paying for**  
12 **basic needs like food, medicine, transportation, health care or childcare; and**

13       **WHEREAS, ninety percent of the South Valley households surveyed**  
14 **expressed interest in being engaged in clean energy and affordable energy**  
15 **access and the same percentage indicated that they were interested in home**  
16 **repairs and energy efficiency; and 70% saw solar energy as an opening for**  
17 **new economic opportunity and job creation; and**

18       **WHEREAS, a grace period will allow the development community to adapt**  
19 **to the new requirements.**

20 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**  
21 **ALBUQUERQUE:**

22       **SECTION 1. GRACE PERIOD. The 2018 International Energy Conservation**  
23 **Code shall be implemented with a grace period until March 2021; during which**  
24 **time the Planning Department shall continue to consider requests for building**  
25 **permits under the requirements of the 2018 International Energy Conservation**  
26 **Code, or the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code with its previously**  
27 **adopted City UAC amendments.**

28       **SECTION 2. ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFIT PROGRAM. That the amount**  
29 **of \$100,000 is designated from a combination of Council Services General**  
30 **Fund appropriations and CARES Act funding in the Operating Grants Fund**  
31 **(265) for Fiscal Year 2021, as determined appropriate and allowable, for the**  
32 **purpose of providing contractual funding for a Low Income Energy Efficiency**  
33 **Retrofit program.**

1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF September, 2020  
2 BY A VOTE OF: 9 FOR 0 AGAINST.

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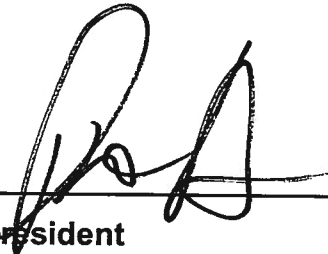
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Patrick Davis, President  
City Council

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APPROVED THIS 1 DAY OF October, 2020

Bill No. R-20-89

  
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Timothy M. Keller, Mayor  
City of Albuquerque

ATTEST:

  
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Ethan Watson, City Clerk

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