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ENERGY-EFFICIENT APPLIANCE REBATES BEGIN APRIL 16

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. --- From April 16 through April 25, Florida residents can receive a rebate on the purchase of energy-efficient appliances under a new law sponsored last year by Representative Joseph Abruzzo (D-Wellington) and supported by Florida House Democratic Caucus members.

The legislation authorized the Florida Energy & Climate Commission to develop and administer a consumer rebate program expected to generate approximately \$18 million in federal funding which will give Florida residents a 20 percent rebate on selected energy efficient appliances.

Consumers will also receive an additional \$75 if they recycle their old appliance, a measure intended to discourage consumers from placing their old energy inefficient appliance in the garage.

Consumers will benefit because they will save money on the purchase price of the designated ENERGY STAR appliances, as well as saving money each month on their energy and water bill and retailers will benefit through the large increase in sales of appliances.

The state is expecting appliances sales to exceed \$62 million with over \$4 million in sales taxes collected.

Among eligible appliances are refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, room air conditioners and gas tankless water heaters.

To qualify, a consumer must first purchase the energy-efficient appliance, then log onto a state website to secure a rebate reservation. The web site is www.rebates.com/florida

The program is expected to accommodate about 66,000 reservations.

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