



Energy Efficiency Standards Act

Bill 23-204

Sponsor: Councilmember Mary Cheh

Businesses and households in DC are spending more money than necessary to run their appliances.

Let's update the standards for how much energy and water appliances use. Newer standards ensure appliances run efficiently and allow DC residents to put more money toward the important things in life.

Efficiency standards:

- Set a minimum level of energy and water efficiency for household and commercial appliances
- Provide savings for consumers and businesses
- Encourage innovative water- and energy-saving technologies

Standards bring huge benefits to DC, including:

- **Affordability:** Consumers and businesses save money on utility bills and are protected from energy waste.
- **Jobs:** Local economies get a boost when consumers have more spending money.
- **Clean energy:** Less electricity use means fewer emissions and less pollution. The result? Public health and air quality improve.



By 2025, new standards could save the electricity equivalent to powering **7,700** District homes.



If new standards are **not** enacted in 2020, DC consumers and businesses would lose out on **\$20** million in savings per year.

"[Efficiency] savings are particularly important for low-income households, who struggle to pay their energy bills and are too often faced with termination of vital utility services due to non-payment. Moreover, money that would have gone to purchase energy supplies from out of state stays in the local economy, helping to create more jobs." - Charlie Harak, National Consumer Law Center as quoted on similar proposed standard in Massachusetts

Neighboring states are acting on standards

- Colorado, Hawaii, Vermont, and Washington adopted a similar package of standards in 2018 and 2019.
- In the Northeast, Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and Maryland plan to pursue standards in 2020.
- The District of Columbia should not be left behind.

Standards benefit the environment

- Cut greenhouse gas emissions
- Help DC meet emissions reductions commitments
- Cut other emissions harmful to public health
- Save precious water resources



Support Appliance Standards in DC in 2020

The time to act is now!



Energy savings



Water Savings



Utility Bill Savings



Emissions Reductions

What's in it for DC consumers?

Annual savings in 2025	Equivalent to:
67 GWh of electricity	Electricity consumption of 8,000 DC households annually
87 billion BTUs of methane gas	Methane gas consumption of nearly 2,000 DC households annually
885 million gallons of water	Water consumption of 15,000 DC households
28,000 metric tons of CO ₂	Emissions from about 6,000 cars for a year
\$20 million	Each household in DC saves \$70 a year

Residents, businesses, and government save money

Efficiency standards ensure that the products we purchase use less energy and water while preserving quality and affordability.

District residents, businesses, and local and state governments will save more than **\$20 million annually by 2025**, which can be re-invested in the local DC economy, spurring job creation. These **savings grow to \$56 million annually by 2035**.

Short payback periods and long-term benefits: Of the 20 standards included in the bill, eight have **no incremental cost**, so consumers and businesses start saving right away. For the remaining 12 standards, the payback period ranges from 0.8 to 4.9 years, with the **median payback period for all products at less than 1 year**. These benefits are three times greater than the amount invested.

Additional Benefits

- DC would be eligible to earn additional points on the ACEEE Energy Efficiency Scorecard, helping it improve its current #11 position.
- Water savings can reduce strain on water supply and delay the need for water and sewer infrastructure improvements.
- These standards also protect federal standards that are at risk for being rolled back. This bill would protect all existing federal standards, which currently save DC customers about \$475 a year on utility bill. The forthcoming 2020 lightbulb standard would save an additional \$180 a year per household.

Covered Products:

Residential	Commercial/Industrial	Water	Multi-Sector
Portable air conditioners	Air compressors	Faucets	Computers and computer monitors
Portable electric spas	Commercial dishwashers	Showerheads	High CRI fluorescent lamps
Residential ventilating fans	Commercial fryers	Spray sprinkler bodies	Uninterruptible power supplies
Air purifiers	Commercial steam cookers	Toilets & urinals	Water coolers

