

Washington, DC - This morning, the United States Department of Energy announced that Texas will receive more than \$545 million for weatherization and energy efficiency grants as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (HR 1), commonly known as the economic stimulus act. Congressman Charlie Gonzalez (TX-20) issued the following statement.

“These funds represent a smart investment in a better Texas. Improving energy efficiency may not have the glamour of creating new sources of energy, but no single thing can do as much as quickly to reduce our energy bills and our greenhouse gas emissions. Individual families could receive as much as \$6,500 each, and these projects will put people to work right away on practical, money-saving projects across the 20th District.”

Of the \$545 million Texas receives, \$327 million will go towards weatherizing individual homes as part of the Department of Energy's [Weatherization Assistance Program](#), which helps low-income families reduce their bills by making their homes more energy-efficient. The Department's [State Energy Program](#) will provide Texas with \$218 million and the flexibility for the state government to use those funds in the most efficient ways for Texans, whether that means renewable and clean energy projects or improving the energy-efficiency of state and local government buildings.

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