

The Massachusetts Association of REALTORS® opposes S.1698, which would require all homeowners to furnish prospective buyers with a completed energy evaluation.

While REALTORS® fully support the right of homeowners to obtain low-cost (or no-cost) energy consumption evaluations, we oppose any attempt to force energy audits or interrogatories on homeowners as a mandate or a mandatory condition of transfer.

Energy Conservation & REALTOR® Policy:

REALTORS® have always been supportive of the efforts of the MassSave program to provide homeowners, upon request, with helpful advice, tips and even resources to make their homes more energy efficient. The program works well, and REALTORS® will continue to promote it among homeowners, sellers & buyers.

However, we are opposed to policies that would include:

1. The concept of a government agency labeling or “scoring” people’s homes in terms of their energy efficiency and, specifically, the potentially disparate impacts of such a scoring mechanism on older homes, many of which are located in less affluent areas.
2. A governmental agency (or contractor) taking thermal images of people’s homes without the prior consent or permission of the homeowner.

Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities & Energy. Hearing not yet scheduled.

Action Needed: Ask your legislators to urge the Committee to report the Bill “Ought NOT to Pass.