



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

2018 Energy Code Water Heating Amendment (Council Bill 120239)

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LAND USE & NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

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Presentation Overview

- Background
- Summary of Council Bill (CB) 120239
- Potential Impacts of CB 120239

Background

- Council adopted the 2018 Energy Code on February 1, 2021 (ORD 126279)
- Notable changes:
 - Included additional goal to reduce carbon emissions
 - Restrictions on use of fossil fuels and electric resistance for space heating (went into effect June 1, 2021) and water heating (effective January 1, 2022; only applies to multifamily and hotel uses)
- Proposed amendment to extend water heating restrictions to all commercial buildings

Summary of CB 120239

The legislation would:

- Require that all new commercial buildings use heat pump water heaters, with some exceptions; most notably does not apply to upgrades of existing commercial buildings
- Make technical changes to make code provisions more coordinated and enforceable

Potential Impacts of CB 120239

- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Impacts on workers
- Project costs

Questions?