



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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Rep. Hebl's Helpful Hints: 'New Rebate Program Could Save Your Family Big Money on Big Appliances'

Earlier this year, the "Cash for Clunkers" program had people rushing to car lots to exchange their vehicles for more fuel-efficient versions. It was a program that helped families save money and supported American jobs at a critical time, all while doing something good for our environment. Now, there's a new program with a similar goal – only this time, we're talking appliances instead of cars.

The U.S. Department of Energy recently approved the Wisconsin State Energy-Efficient Appliance Rebate Program. The state was awarded nearly \$5.5 million for consumer rebates, and cash-back rewards will start January 1, 2010.

This means that, if your family is in the market for a new furnace or boiler, you could qualify for a \$200 rebate. You could also get a rebate of \$100 for washers, \$75 for refrigerators and \$25 for dishwashers. Several other appliances will qualify for cash-back rewards too, though clothes driers and stoves won't count because they aren't energy-star rated.

In order to get your rebate, you'll need to fill out an application within 30 days of your purchase, attach a copy of your receipt and send those materials to the address on the application form. You should get a rebate check in the mail within six to eight weeks.

This new program will help families make valuable improvements in their homes – often their biggest investments. It will save consumers money when they buy their appliances, and also in the long run, as they save on their energy bills. At the same time, retailers think the "Cash for Appliances" program will boost their sales, and in turn, support their businesses and employees.

If we're going to build up this economy, we must focus on support for those three groups: Wisconsin families, business owners, and workers. Throughout 2009, it's been my top priority to set our state on a path to recovery and future success. In putting this priority to work and collaborating with the federal government, we now have a program that could mean a lot to family budgets, Wisconsin businesses and the state's overall economic outlook.

If you have questions or need more information about Wisconsin's new appliance rebate, contact Rep. Hebl at 266-7678. You can also visit the program's website, www.focusonenergy.com.

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