Tara Hall

From: Sen. Julie Mayfield < Julie.Mayfield@ncleg.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 12:09 PM

To: RentalHelp

Subject: Comment on NC 2023 QAP

Hello - I strongly urge the NCHFA to consider adding additional points for projects that are able to meet levels of energy efficiency certification that exceed the baseline, required Energy Star certification. While requiring Energy Star as a baseline is a great start, additional efficiency measures would translate directly in more dollars in the pockets of future residents over the life of the project.

I understand the challenge of securing financing for affordable housing projects, and I understand the reluctance to add additional costs that might make that financing even more difficult to secure. For the benefit of residents of these projects, however, we should incentivize developers to do more. My undersanding is that Georgia includes additional points for higher levels of certification, including Enterprise, LEED, National Green Building Standards, and EarthCraft (a Georgia-based green building standard), and that all 4% and 9% projects in Georgia are now built to one of these standards.

If Georgia can require this, North Carolina can find a way to do so as well. If you need more information about the Georgia program, you can, of course, reach out to your counterpart there or reach out to <u>Southface</u>, which created the EarthCraft standard.

Thank you, Julie Mayfield

Senator Julie Mayfield NC Senate District 49

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