A bill for an act

relating to energy; clarifying terms of propane prepurchase program; amending Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 216B.0951, subdivision 1.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 216B.0951, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The commissioner of commerce shall operate, or contract to operate, a propane fuel prepurchase fuel program. The commissioner must hold over five percent of a year's federal low-income home energy assistance appropriation for use in the next year to prepurchase propane. The commissioner may contract at any time of the year to purchase the lesser of one-third of the liquid propane fuel consumed by low-income home energy assistance program recipients during the previous heating season or the amount that can be purchased with available funds. The propane fuel prepurchase program must be available statewide through each local agency that administers the energy assistance program. The commissioner may decide to limit or not engage in prepurchasing if the commissioner finds that there is a reasonable likelihood that prepurchasing will not provide fuel-cost savings. Funds required to be held over to the next year for prepurchase that the commissioner decides not to use for prepurchase are not required to be held over to a subsequent year and may be used for other authorized low-income home energy assistance purposes.