Chapter 342

(House Bill 1534)

AN ACT concerning

Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Solar Water Heating Systems

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "solar water heating system" for purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard to include systems that consist of certain concentrating solar thermal collectors under certain circumstances; making a stylistic change; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the renewable energy portfolio standard.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
    Article – Public Utilities
    Section 7–701(a)
    Annotated Code of Maryland
    (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
    Article – Public Utilities
    Section 7–701(k–1)
    Annotated Code of Maryland
    (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Utilities

7–701.

(a)   In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(k–1) (1)   "Solar water heating system" means a system that:

(i)   [is comprised] CONSISTS of glazed liquid–type flat–plate or tubular solar collectors OR CONCENTRATING SOLAR THERMAL COLLECTORS as defined and certified to the OG–100 standard of the Solar Ratings and Certification Corporation;

(ii)   generates energy using solar radiation for the purpose of heating water; and

(iii)   does not feed electricity back to the electric grid.

(2)   "Solar water heating system" does not include a system that generates energy using solar radiation for the sole purpose of heating a hot tub or swimming pool.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three–fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2013.