

# HOUSE BILL 586

E4, C5

(9lr2217)

**ENROLLED BILL**  
— *Economic Matters/Finance* —

Introduced by **Delegate Wilson**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Solar Photovoltaic Systems – Lockout Tag Requirement *and***  
3 ***Study***

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a company that ~~leases~~ *installs* solar photovoltaic systems to  
5 install a certain lockout tag containing a safety warning under certain  
6 circumstances; ~~requiring a certain company to provide a certain customer with a~~  
7 ~~certain lockout tag for a solar photovoltaic system that has previously been installed;~~  
8 ~~providing for the enforcement of this Act; establishing a penalty for certain violations~~  
9 ~~of this Act; specifying that a local government shall retain certain funds;~~ defining  
10 certain terms; *requiring the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to make*  
11 *a certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain*  
12 *date;* and generally relating to safety warnings for solar photovoltaic installations.

13 BY adding to  
14 Article – Public Safety

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

*Italics* indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Section 12-705  
 2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 3 (2018 Replacement Volume)

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

6 Article – Public Safety

7 12-705.

8 (A) ~~(1)~~ IN THIS SECTION ~~THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS~~  
 9 ~~INDICATED.~~

10 ~~(2) “KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX” MEANS A CONTROL~~  
 11 ~~SWITCH FOR A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION AT A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.~~

12 ~~(3) “LOCKOUT, “LOCKOUT TAG” MEANS A TAG THAT:~~

13 ~~(1)~~ (1) SEALS A KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX  
 14 CLOSED;

15 ~~(2)~~ (2) IS ATTACHED TO THE EXTERIOR OF THE KNIFE BLADE  
 16 DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX WITH A METAL OR PLASTIC STRAP; AND

17 ~~(3)~~ (3) INCLUDES A SAFETY WARNING ABOUT THE  
 18 POTENTIAL FOR ELECTROCUTION IF AN INDIVIDUAL REMOVES THE LOCKOUT TAG  
 19 OR TOUCHES THE CONTENTS OF THE KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX.

20 (B) ~~(1)~~ A COMPANY THAT ~~LEASES~~ INSTALLS SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC  
 21 SYSTEMS SHALL INSTALL A LOCKOUT TAG AT EACH RESIDENTIAL INSTALLATION AT  
 22 THE TIME OF INSTALLATION.

23 ~~(2) A COMPANY THAT HAS PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED A SOLAR~~  
 24 ~~PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM ON A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SHALL PROVIDE THE~~  
 25 ~~CUSTOMER WITH A LOCKOUT TAG WITH DIRECTIONS ON HOW THE LOCKOUT TAG~~  
 26 ~~SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX.~~

27 ~~(C) (1) A COMPANY THAT LEASES SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS~~  
 28 ~~SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF AT LEAST \$100 BUT~~  
 29 ~~NOT MORE THAN \$500 IF THE COMPANY FAILS TO:~~

30 ~~(i) INSTALL A LOCKOUT TAG ON A NEW INSTALLATION; OR~~

~~(H) PROVIDE TO A CUSTOMER A LOCKOUT TAG FOR A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM THAT THE COMPANY PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED.~~

~~(2) THE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS REQUIRED TO INSPECT A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE CODE STANDARDS SHALL ENFORCE THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.~~

~~(3) THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT PERFORMS OR OVERSEES THE INSPECTION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL RETAIN ANY PENALTY COLLECTED FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before December 1, 2019, the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation shall report to the House Economic Matters Committee and the Senate Finance Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on:

(1) the advisability of requiring:

(i) the provision of lockout tags, as defined in § 12-705(a) of the Public Safety Article as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, to residential customers with solar photovoltaic systems installed on their property;

(ii) the provision of notice about the safety benefits of lockout tags to residential customers with solar photovoltaic systems installed on their property; and

(iii) any other more effective method of making customers aware of the safety benefits of lockout tags to residential customers with solar photovoltaic systems installed on their property; and

(2) the most effective method of implementing any recommendation made under item (1) of this section.

SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.