

SENATE BILL 683

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2002 Regular Session
2lr2448

By: **Senator Pinsky**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public School Construction - Use of Solar Energy - Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the purpose for which the Interagency Council on
4 Public School Construction may provide certain grants to local boards of
5 education to assist in implementing the use of solar energy systems; altering the
6 types of costs that would qualify for the grants; altering the responsibility of the
7 local board for certain costs; authorizing the Interagency Council to award
8 certain grants for certain projects with the approval of the Board of Public
9 Works; requiring the Interagency Council and Maryland Energy Administration
10 to cooperate, to assist, to provide technical assistance to, and to advise school
11 systems on certain matters; and generally relating to the pilot program to use
12 solar energy in public school buildings.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Education
15 Section 5-301.1
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2001 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article - Education**

21 5-301.1.

22 (a) (1) There is a solar energy pilot program to promote the use of solar
23 energy systems to generate electricity in public school buildings in the State.

24 (2) The pilot program shall be implemented and administered by the
25 Interagency Committee on School Construction and shall operate as provided in this
26 section.

27 (b) The Interagency Committee shall:

1 (1) Encourage all local boards in the State to study, design, and construct
2 or renovate school buildings that are energy efficient and use solar energy systems to
3 generate electricity to meet [a certain percent] SOME of the school building's
4 electrical energy needs, electrical energy demand, or a combination of the electrical
5 energy needs and electrical energy demand;

6 (2) Provide grants out of State funds dedicated for this program to local
7 boards to assist in implementing the use of solar energy systems [in newly
8 constructed] AT EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR IN NEW or renovated school
9 [buildings] BUILDING PROJECTS; and

10 (3) Develop a procedure for a local board to apply for a grant in
11 accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

12 (c) (1) A local board may apply to the Interagency Committee for a grant to
13 cover 90% of the [total additional cost of constructing or renovating school buildings
14 to utilize solar energy systems to meet the following percentages of the school
15 buildings' electrical energy needs, electrical energy demand, or a combination of the
16 electrical energy needs and electrical energy demand:

17 (i) For an elementary school, at least 20%;

18 (ii) For a middle school, at least 15%; and

19 (iii) For a high school, at least 10%] COST TO PURCHASE AND
20 INSTALL A SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM TO GENERATE A PORTION OF THE SCHOOL
21 BUILDING'S ELECTRICAL NEEDS.

22 (2) A local board that receives a grant under this subsection shall pay:

23 (i) 10% of the [total additional costs of constructing or renovating
24 a school building to utilize] COST TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL THE solar energy
25 [systems] SYSTEM; and

26 (ii) All architectural or engineering fees for the design and
27 supervision of the installation of the solar energy [systems] SYSTEM.

28 (3) The Interagency Committee may [not] award a grant under this
29 section for a [public school construction] SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM project [that has
30 not been approved by] WITH THE APPROVAL OF the Board of Public Works.

31 (d) Local school systems are encouraged to seek private funding to implement
32 the pilot program.

33 (e) The total savings of electrical energy needs and electrical energy demand
34 costs that result from the installation and use of solar energy systems under this
35 section shall remain with the local school system.

36 (f) (1) The Interagency Committee and the Maryland Energy
37 Administration shall cooperate with, assist, provide technical assistance to, and

1 advise school systems to identify appropriate EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS
2 AND public school construction projects that would benefit from the installation of
3 solar energy systems.

4 (2) The Interagency Committee shall adopt procedures necessary to
5 implement this section.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 July 1, 2002.