

BY: Committee on Ways and Means

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 714

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “Tax Credit - Extension” and substitute “Grant Program”; strike beginning with “extending” in line 3 down through “for” in line 6 and substitute “establishing the Solar Energy Grant Program in the Maryland Energy Administration to provide certain grants to individuals, local governments, and businesses for certain portions of the costs of acquiring and installing photovoltaic property and solar water heating property; requiring the Maryland Energy Administration to administer the Program, establish certain procedures, and award grants from the Program; defining certain terms; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to the Solar Energy Grant Program and”; and strike in their entirety lines 8 through 12, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY adding to

Article - State Government

Section 9-2006

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 15 on page 1 through line 34 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

“Article - State Government

9-2006.

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

(Over)

(2) “PHOTOVOLTAIC PROPERTY” MEANS SOLAR ENERGY PROPERTY THAT USES A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC PROCESS TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY AND THAT MEETS APPLICABLE PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF ACQUISITION OF THE PROPERTY, AS SPECIFIED BY THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION.

(3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE SOLAR ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM.

(4) (I) “SOLAR ENERGY PROPERTY” MEANS EQUIPMENT THAT USES SOLAR ENERGY:

1. TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY;

2. TO HEAT OR COOL A STRUCTURE OR PROVIDE HOT WATER FOR USE IN A STRUCTURE; OR

3. TO PROVIDE SOLAR PROCESS HEAT.

(II) “SOLAR ENERGY PROPERTY” DOES NOT INCLUDE A SWIMMING POOL, HOT TUB, OR ANY OTHER ENERGY STORAGE MEDIUM THAT HAS A FUNCTION OTHER THAN STORAGE.

(5) “SOLAR WATER HEATING PROPERTY” MEANS SOLAR ENERGY PROPERTY THAT:

(I) WHEN INSTALLED IN CONNECTION WITH A STRUCTURE, USES SOLAR ENERGY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING HOT WATER FOR USE WITHIN THE STRUCTURE; AND

(II) MEETS APPLICABLE PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF ACQUISITION OF THE PROPERTY, AS SPECIFIED BY THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION.

(B) THERE IS A SOLAR ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AND BUSINESSES FOR A PORTION OF THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING AND INSTALLING PHOTOVOLTAIC PROPERTY AND SOLAR WATER HEATING PROPERTY.

(D) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

(1) ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM;

(2) ESTABLISH APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR THE PROGRAM; AND

(3) AWARD GRANTS FROM THE PROGRAM.

(E) A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THE PROGRAM MAY NOT EXCEED:

(1) FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC PROPERTY INSTALLED ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, THE LESSER OF \$3,000 OR 20% OF THE TOTAL INSTALLED COST OF THE PHOTOVOLTAIC PROPERTY;

(2) FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC PROPERTY INSTALLED ON NONRESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, THE LESSER OF \$5,000 OR 20% OF THE TOTAL INSTALLED COST OF THE PHOTOVOLTAIC PROPERTY; AND

(3) FOR SOLAR WATER HEATING PROPERTY, THE LESSER OF \$2,000 OR 20% OF THE TOTAL INSTALLED COST OF THE SOLAR WATER HEATING PROPERTY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, for fiscal year 2005, funding for the Solar Energy Grant Program shall be as provided in the State budget. It is the intent of the General Assembly that beginning in fiscal year 2006, at least \$500,000 shall be included annually in the State budget for the Solar Energy Grant Program.”.

On page 3, in line 1, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”; and in line 2, strike “July 1, 2004” and substitute “January 1, 2005”.

(Over)