
By: **Senators Garagiola, Britt, Dyson, Forehand, Frosh, Green, Grosfeld,
Hollinger, Jones, Pinsky, Ruben, and Teitelbaum**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2006

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Solar, Wind, and Geothermal Energy Grant Program**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the Solar Energy Grant Program in the Maryland Energy
4 Administration to be the Solar, Wind, and Geothermal Grant Program;
5 providing certain grants to individuals, local governments, and businesses for
6 certain portions of the costs of acquiring and installing small wind property and
7 geothermal property; altering the amounts of certain grants awarded under the
8 Program; limiting the amount of certain grants awarded under the Program for
9 geothermal property; defining certain terms; repealing certain provisions
10 relating to geothermal property; and generally relating to the Solar, Wind, and
11 Geothermal Energy Grant Program.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article - State Government
14 Section 9-2007
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

17 BY repealing
18 Article - State Government
19 Section 9-2008
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

24 **Article - State Government**

25 9-2007.

26 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

1 (2) "GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY" MEANS A HEATING AND COOLING DEVICE
2 THAT IS INSTALLED USING GROUND LOOP TECHNOLOGY.

3 (3) "Photovoltaic property" means solar energy property that uses a solar
4 photovoltaic process to generate electricity and that meets applicable performance
5 and quality standards and certification requirements in effect at the time of
6 acquisition of the property, as specified by the Maryland Energy Administration.

7 [(3)] (4) "Program" means the Solar, WIND, AND GEOTHERMAL Energy
8 Grant Program.

9 (5) "SMALL WIND PROPERTY" MEANS EQUIPMENT THAT HARNESSSES
10 WIND ENERGY TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY AT A CAPACITY OF NOT MORE THAN 30
11 KILOWATTS.

12 [(4)] (6) (i) "Solar energy property" means equipment that uses solar
13 energy:

- 14 1. to generate electricity;
- 15 2. to heat or cool a structure or provide hot water for use in a
16 structure; or
- 17 3. to provide solar process heat.

18 (ii) "Solar energy property" does not include a swimming pool, hot
19 tub, or any other energy storage medium that has a function other than storage.

20 [(5)] (7) "Solar water heating property" means solar energy property
21 that:

22 (i) when installed in connection with a structure, uses solar energy
23 for the purpose of providing hot water for use within the structure; and

24 (ii) meets applicable performance and quality standards and
25 certification requirements in effect at the time of acquisition of the property, as
26 specified by the Maryland Energy Administration.

27 (b) There is a Solar, WIND, AND GEOTHERMAL Energy Grant Program in the
28 Administration.

29 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals, local
30 governments, and businesses for a portion of the costs of acquiring and installing
31 photovoltaic property, SMALL WIND PROPERTY, GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY, and solar
32 water heating property.

33 (d) The Administration shall:

- 34 (1) administer the Program;
- 35 (2) establish application procedures for the Program; and

1 (3) award grants from the Program.

2 (e) A grant awarded under the Program may not exceed:

3 (1) for photovoltaic property AND SMALL WIND PROPERTY installed on
4 residential property, THE SUM OF:

5 (I) the lesser of [\$3,000] \$20,000 or [20%] 50% of the total installed
6 cost of the photovoltaic property OR SMALL WIND PROPERTY; AND

7 (II) THE LESSER OF THE AMOUNT OF ONE DOLLAR MULTIPLIED BY
8 THE KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM THE PHOTOVOLTAIC
9 PROPERTY OR SMALL WIND PROPERTY DURING ITS FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION OR
10 \$10,000;

11 (2) for photovoltaic property AND SMALL WIND PROPERTY installed on
12 nonresidential property, THE SUM OF:

13 (I) the lesser of [\$5,000] \$60,000 or [20%] 50% of the total installed
14 cost of the photovoltaic property OR SMALL WIND PROPERTY; and

15 (II) THE LESSER OF THE AMOUNT OF ONE DOLLAR MULTIPLIED BY
16 THE KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM THE PHOTOVOLTAIC
17 PROPERTY OR SMALL WIND PROPERTY DURING ITS FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION, OR
18 \$10,000;

19 (3) for solar water heating property, the lesser of [\$2,000] \$4,000 or
20 [20%] 40% of the total installed cost of the solar water heating property; AND

21 (4) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, FOR GEOTHERMAL
22 PROPERTY INSTALLED ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, AN AMOUNT THAT MAY NOT
23 EXCEED \$3,000.

24 (F) NOT MORE THAN 10% OF THE MONEY IN THE PROGRAM MAY BE USED FOR
25 GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY GRANTS UNDER SUBSECTION (E)(4) OF THIS SECTION.

26 [9-2008.

27 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

28 (2) "Geothermal heat pump" means a heating and cooling device that is
29 installed using ground loop technology.

30 (3) "Program" means the Geothermal Heat Pump Grant Program.

31 (b) There is a Geothermal Heat Pump Grant Program in the Administration.

32 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals for a portion
33 of the cost of acquiring and installing a geothermal heat pump.

34 (d) The Administration shall:

- 1 (1) administer the Program;
- 2 (2) establish application procedures for the Program; and
- 3 (3) award grants from the Program.
- 4 (e) A grant awarded under the Program may not exceed \$1,000.]

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2006.