

HOUSE BILL 960

M3

71r0788

By: **Delegates Bartlett, Feldman, Haddaway, Hecht, Impallaria, Manno, Miller, Stifler, Taylor, Vaughn, and Walkup**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2007

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Solar 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 and Geothermal Energy Grant Program;
5 providing certain grants to individuals, local governments, and businesses for
6 certain portions of the costs of acquiring and installing geothermal property;
7 altering the amounts of certain grants awarded under the Program; limiting the
8 amount of certain grants awarded under the Program for geothermal property;
9 defining a certain term; repealing certain provisions relating to geothermal
10 property; and generally relating to the Solar and Geothermal Energy Grant
11 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 2006 Supplement)

17 BY repealing
18 Article – State Government
19 Section 9–2008
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – State Government**

4 9–2007.

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

6 (2) **“GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY” MEANS A HEATING AND COOLING**
7 **DEVICE THAT IS INSTALLED USING GROUND LOOP TECHNOLOGY.**

8 (3) **“Photovoltaic property”** means solar energy property that uses a
9 solar photovoltaic process to generate electricity and that meets applicable
10 performance and quality standards and certification requirements in effect at the time
11 of acquisition of the property, as specified by the Maryland Energy Administration.

12 **[(3)] (4)** **“Program”** means the Solar **AND GEOTHERMAL** Energy
13 Grant Program.

14 **[(4)] (5)** (i) **“Solar energy property”** means equipment that uses
15 solar energy:

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

20 (ii) **“Solar energy property”** does not include a swimming pool,
21 hot tub, or any other energy storage medium that has a function other than storage.

22 **[(5)] (6)** **“Solar water heating property”** means solar energy property
23 that:

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

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

1 (b) There is a Solar AND GEOTHERMAL Energy Grant Program in the
2 Administration.

3 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals, local
4 governments, and businesses for a portion of the costs of acquiring and installing
5 photovoltaic property, GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY, and solar water heating property.

6 (d) The Administration shall:

7 (1) administer the Program;

8 (2) establish application procedures for the Program; and

9 (3) award grants from the Program.

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

11 (1) for photovoltaic property installed on residential property, **THE**
12 **SUM OF:**

13 (I) the lesser of [\$3,000 or 20%] **\$15,000 OR 50%** of the total
14 installed cost of the photovoltaic property; AND

15 (II) **THE LESSER OF THE AMOUNT OF \$1 MULTIPLIED BY**
16 **THE KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM THE PHOTOVOLTAIC**
17 **PROPERTY DURING ITS FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION OR \$10,000;**

18 (2) for photovoltaic property installed on nonresidential property, **THE**
19 **SUM OF:**

20 (I) the lesser of [\$5,000 or 20%] **\$50,000 OR 50%** of the total
21 installed cost of the photovoltaic property; and

22 (II) **THE LESSER OF THE AMOUNT OF \$1 MULTIPLIED BY**
23 **THE KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM THE PHOTOVOLTAIC**
24 **PROPERTY DURING ITS FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION OR \$10,000;**

25 (3) for solar water heating property, the lesser of [\$2,000 or 20%]
26 **\$2,500 OR 50%** of the total installed cost of the solar water heating property; AND

1 **(4) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, FOR**
2 **GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY INSTALLED ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, AN AMOUNT**
3 **THAT MAY NOT EXCEED \$1,000.**

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

7 [9–2008.

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

9 (2) “Geothermal heat pump” means a heating and cooling device that
10 is installed using ground loop technology.

11 (3) “Program” means the Geothermal Heat Pump Grant Program.

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

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

15 (d) The Administration shall:

16 (1) administer the Program;

17 (2) establish application procedures for the Program; and

18 (3) award grants from the Program.

19 (e) A grant awarded under the Program may not exceed \$1,000.]

20 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
21 **October 1, 2007.**