

SENATE BILL 187

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By: **Senators Garagiola, Brochin, Colburn, Dyson, Forehand, Kramer, Lenett, Madaleno, Mooney, Munson, Pinsky, Pugh, Rosapepe, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2007

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Solar Energy Grant Program**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the amounts of certain grants awarded under the Solar
4 Energy Grant Program in the Maryland Energy Administration; repealing
5 certain provisions relating to the Geothermal Heat Pump Grant Program; and
6 generally relating to the Solar Energy Grant Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – State Government
9 Section 9–2007
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

12 BY repealing
13 Article – State Government
14 Section 9–2008
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – State Government**

20 9–2007.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

6 (3) "Program" means the Solar Energy Grant Program.

7 (4) (i) "Solar energy property" means equipment that uses solar
8 energy:

- 9 1. to generate electricity;
- 10 2. to heat or cool a structure or provide hot water for use
11 in a structure; or
- 12 3. to provide solar process heat.

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

15 (5) "Solar water heating property" means solar energy property that:

- 16 (i) when installed in connection with a structure, uses solar
17 energy for the purpose of providing hot water for use within the structure; and
- 18 (ii) meets applicable performance and quality standards and
19 certification requirements in effect at the time of acquisition of the property, as
20 specified by the Maryland Energy Administration.

21 (b) There is a Solar Energy Grant Program in the Administration.

22 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals, local
23 governments, and businesses for a portion of the costs of acquiring and installing
24 photovoltaic property and solar water heating property.

25 (d) The Administration shall:

- 26 (1) administer the Program;
- 27 (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 installed on residential property, the
4 lesser of [~~\$3,000~~] **\$6,000** or [~~20%~~] **30%** of the total installed cost of the photovoltaic
5 property;

6 (2) for photovoltaic property installed on nonresidential property, the
7 lesser of [~~\$5,000~~] **\$10,000** or [~~20%~~] **30%** of the total installed cost of the photovoltaic
8 property; and

9 (3) for solar water heating property, the lesser of:

10 (I) **ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, [~~\$2,000~~] **\$3,000** or [~~20%~~]**
11 **30%** of the total installed cost of the solar water heating property; **AND**

12 (II) **ON NONRESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, **\$10,000** OR **30%** OF**
13 **THE TOTAL INSTALLED COST OF THE SOLAR WATER HEATING PROPERTY.**

14 [9–2008.

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

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

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

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

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

22 (d) The Administration shall:

23 (1) administer the Program;

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

25 (3) award grants from the Program.

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

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

3 July 1, 2007.