

HOUSE BILL 910

C5, M3

9lr0881

By: **Delegates McComas, Riley, Bartlett, Bates, Elmore, George, James, Jameson, Kipke, Kullen, McConkey, Myers, Norman, Serafini, Sossi, Stull, and Weldon**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2009

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund – Energy Efficiency and**
3 **Conservation Programs – Seniors**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Energy Administration to consider the
5 needs of low-income and moderate-income seniors when using money from the
6 Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund to develop and implement certain
7 energy efficiency and conservation programs; and generally relating to the
8 Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – State Government
11 Section 9–20B–01(a), (b), and (d) and 9–20B–05(g)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – State Government
16 Section 9–20B–05(h)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – State Government**

22 9–20B–01.

23 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) "Administration" means the Maryland Energy Administration.

2 (d) "Fund" means the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

3 9-20B-05.

4 (g) Moneys received each year by the Fund shall be allocated each year as
5 follows:

6 (1) 17% shall be transferred to the Department of Human Resources to
7 be used for the Electric Universal Service Program and other electricity assistance
8 programs in the Department of Human Resources;

9 (2) 23% to provide rate relief by offsetting electricity rates of
10 residential customers, including an offset of surcharges imposed on ratepayers under §
11 7-211 of the Public Utility Companies Article, on a per customer basis and in a
12 manner prescribed by the Public Service Commission;

13 (3) at least 46% for energy efficiency and conservation programs,
14 projects, or activities and demand response programs, of which at least one-half shall
15 be targeted to:

16 (i) the low-income residential sector at no cost to the
17 participants of the programs, projects, or activities; and

18 (ii) the moderate-income residential sector;

19 (4) up to 10.5% for:

20 (i) subject to subsection (i) of this section, renewable and clean
21 energy programs and initiatives;

22 (ii) energy-related public education and outreach; and

23 (iii) climate change programs; and

24 (5) up to 3.5%, but not more than \$4,000,000, for costs related to the
25 administration of the Fund, including the review of electric company plans for
26 achieving electricity savings and demand reductions that the electric companies are
27 required under law to submit to the Administration.

28 (h) (1) Energy efficiency and conservation programs under subsection
29 (g)(3) of this section include:

30 (i) low-income energy efficiency programs;

31 (ii) residential and small business energy efficiency programs;

- 1 (iii) commercial and industrial energy efficiency programs;
2 (iv) State and local energy efficiency programs;
3 (v) demand response programs;
4 (vi) loan programs and alternative financing mechanisms; and
5 (vii) grants to training funds and other organizations supporting
6 job training for deployment of energy efficiency and energy conservation technology
7 and equipment.

8 **(2) WHEN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING ENERGY**
9 **EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS TARGETED TO THE LOW-INCOME**
10 **AND MODERATE-INCOME RESIDENTIAL SECTORS, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL**
11 **CONSIDER THE NEEDS OF LOW-INCOME AND MODERATE-INCOME SENIORS.**

12 [(2)] (3) Energy-related public education and outreach and
13 renewable and clean energy programs and initiatives under subsection (g)(4)(i) and (ii)
14 of this section include:

- 15 (i) production incentives for specified renewable energy sources;
16 (ii) expansion of existing grant programs for solar, geothermal,
17 and wind programs;
18 (iii) loan programs and alternative financing mechanisms; and
19 (iv) consumer education and outreach programs that are
20 designed to reach low-income communities.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2009.