

HOUSE BILL 696

C5, M3, P2

0lr1456

By: **Delegates Hecht, Beidle, Bronrott, Carr, Doory, Feldman, Frick, Glenn, Holmes, Jameson, Krysiak, Love, Manno, Mathias, McHale, and Niemann**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2010

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund – Allocation of Proceeds**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the allocation to certain accounts of certain proceeds
4 received by the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund from the sale of
5 certain allowances under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative; and generally
6 relating to the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – State Government
9 Section 9–20B–05(a), (b), and (g–1)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2009 Replacement Volume)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – State Government
14 Section 9–20B–05(g)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2009 Replacement Volume)

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 9–20B–05.

21 (a) There is a Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) The purpose of the Fund is to implement the Strategic Energy
2 Investment Program.

3 (g) Except as provided in subsection (g-1) of this section, proceeds received
4 by the Fund from the sale of allowances under § 2-1002(g) of the Environment Article
5 shall be allocated to the following accounts:

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

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

13 (3) at least [46%] **30%** shall be credited to a low and moderate income
14 efficiency and conservation programs account and to a general efficiency and
15 conservation programs account for energy efficiency and conservation programs,
16 projects, or activities and demand response programs, of which at least [one-half]
17 **TWO-THIRDS** shall be targeted to the low and moderate income efficiency and
18 conservation programs account for:

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

21 (ii) the moderate-income residential sector;

22 (4) up to [10.5%] **26.5%** shall be credited to a renewable and clean
23 energy programs account for:

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

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

27 (iii) climate change programs; and

28 (5) up to 3.5%, but not more than \$4,000,000, shall be credited to an
29 administrative expense account for costs related to the administration of the Fund,
30 including the review of electric company plans for achieving electricity savings and
31 demand reductions that the electric companies are required under law to submit to the
32 Administration.

33 (g-1) The proceeds described in subsection (g) of this section from the
34 allowances sold between March 1, 2009, and June 30, 2011, shall be allocated as
35 follows:

1 (1) up to 50% shall be credited to an energy assistance account to be
2 used as described in subsection (g)(1) of this section;

3 (2) 23% shall be credited to a rate relief account to be allocated as
4 provided in subsection (g)(2) of this section;

5 (3) at least 17.5% shall be credited to a low and moderate income
6 efficiency and conservation programs account and to a general efficiency and
7 conservation programs account to be allocated as provided in subsection (g)(3) of this
8 section;

9 (4) at least 6.5% shall be credited to a renewable and clean energy
10 programs account to be allocated as provided in subsection (g)(4) of this section; and

11 (5) up to 3.0%, but not more than \$4,000,000, shall be credited to an
12 administrative expense account to be allocated as provided in subsection (g)(5) of this
13 section.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2010.