

SENATE BILL 717

C5
SB 1107/10 – FIN

11r0807
CF 11r1688

By: **Senator Garagiola and the President (By Request – Administration) and
Senators DeGrange, Klausmeier, Manno, Mathias, Middleton, Muse,
Pinsky, Pugh, Raskin, Rosapepe, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2011

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Renewable Energy Credits – Solar**
3 **Water Heating Systems**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that energy from a certain solar water heating system is
5 eligible for inclusion in meeting the renewable energy portfolio standard;
6 providing that a person that owns and operates a certain solar water heating
7 system shall receive a certain renewable energy credit under certain
8 circumstances; requiring the total amount of energy generated and consumed by
9 a nonresidential or commercial solar water heating system to be measured by a
10 certain meter; requiring the total amount of energy generated and consumed by
11 a residential solar water heating system to be measured in a certain way;
12 prohibiting a residential solar water heating system from producing more than
13 a certain number of solar renewable energy credits in any one year; defining a
14 certain term; altering a certain definition; requiring that certain solar water
15 heating systems be installed in accordance with applicable State and local
16 plumbing codes; providing for the application of this Act; providing for a delayed
17 effective date; and generally relating to the eligibility of solar water heating
18 systems for inclusion in meeting the renewable energy portfolio standard.

19 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
20 Article – Public Utilities
21 Section 7–701(a)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2010 Replacement Volume)

24 BY adding to
25 Article – Public Utilities
26 Section 7–701(k–1) and 7–704(g)
27 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2010 Replacement Volume)

2 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
3 Article – Public Utilities
4 Section 7–701(l)
5 Annotated Code of Maryland
6 (2010 Replacement Volume)

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

9 **Article – Public Utilities**

10 7–701.

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

12 **(K–1) (1) “SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM” MEANS A SYSTEM THAT:**

13 **(I) IS COMPRISED OF GLAZED LIQUID–TYPE FLAT–PLATE**
14 **OR TUBULAR SOLAR COLLECTORS AS DEFINED AND CERTIFIED AS OG–100 BY**
15 **THE SOLAR RATINGS AND CERTIFICATION CORPORATION;**

16 **(II) GENERATES ENERGY USING SOLAR RADIATION FOR THE**
17 **PURPOSE OF HEATING WATER; AND**

18 **(III) DOES NOT FEED ELECTRICITY BACK TO THE ELECTRIC**
19 **GRID.**

20 **(2) “SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM” DOES NOT INCLUDE A**
21 **SYSTEM THAT GENERATES ENERGY USING SOLAR RADIATION FOR THE SOLE**
22 **PURPOSE OF HEATING A HOT TUB OR SWIMMING POOL.**

23 (l) “Tier 1 renewable source” means one or more of the following types of
24 energy sources:

25 (1) solar ENERGY, INCLUDING ENERGY FROM PHOTOVOLTAIC
26 TECHNOLOGIES AND SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEMS;

27 (2) wind;

28 (3) qualifying biomass;

29 (4) methane from the anaerobic decomposition of organic materials in
30 a landfill or wastewater treatment plant;

1 (5) geothermal;

2 (6) ocean, including energy from waves, tides, currents, and thermal
3 differences;

4 (7) a fuel cell that produces electricity from a Tier 1 renewable source
5 under item (3) or (4) of this subsection;

6 (8) a small hydroelectric power plant of less than 30 megawatts in
7 capacity that is licensed or exempt from licensing by the Federal Energy Regulatory
8 Commission; and

9 (9) poultry litter-to-energy.

10 7-704.

11 **(G) (1) ENERGY FROM A SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM IS ELIGIBLE**
12 **FOR INCLUSION IN MEETING THE RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD.**

13 **(2) A PERSON THAT OWNS AND OPERATES A SOLAR WATER**
14 **HEATING SYSTEM SHALL RECEIVE A RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDIT EQUAL TO**
15 **THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY, CONVERTED FROM BTUS TO KILOWATT-HOURS,**
16 **THAT IS GENERATED BY THE SYSTEM THAT IS USED BY THE PERSON FOR WATER**
17 **HEATING.**

18 **(3) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ENERGY GENERATED AND CONSUMED**
19 **FOR A NONRESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM**
20 **SHALL BE MEASURED BY AN ON-SITE METER THAT:**

21 **(I) MEETS THE REQUIRED PERFORMANCE STANDARDS OF**
22 **THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY; AND**

23 **(II) IS CAPABLE OF PROVIDING ENERGY PRODUCTION DATA**
24 **ONLINE TO THE COMMISSION.**

25 **(4) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ENERGY GENERATED AND CONSUMED**
26 **BY A RESIDENTIAL SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM SHALL BE:**

27 **(I) MEASURED BY A METER THAT:**

28 **1. MEETS THE REQUIRED STANDARDS OF THE**
29 **INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY; AND**

30 **2. IS CAPABLE OF PROVIDING ENERGY PRODUCTION**
31 **DATA ONLINE TO THE COMMISSION; OR**

1 **(II) 1. MEASURED BY THE SOLAR RATINGS AND**
2 **CERTIFICATION CORPORATION'S OG-300 ANNUAL PRODUCTION ESTIMATE**
3 **FOR THE SYSTEM; AND**

4 **2. OG-300 CERTIFIED BY THE SOLAR RATINGS AND**
5 **CERTIFICATION CORPORATION.**

6 **(5) A RESIDENTIAL SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM SHALL BE**
7 **INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND LOCAL PLUMBING**
8 **CODES.**

9 **(6) A RESIDENTIAL SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM MAY NOT**
10 **PRODUCE MORE THAN FIVE SOLAR RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS IN ANY**
11 **1 YEAR.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply only
13 to solar water heating systems that are commissioned on or after June 1, 2011.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 January 1, 2012.