

# SENATE BILL 785

C8, M5

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CF 0lr3507

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By: **Senator Klausmeier**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Department of Labor – Clean Energy Workforce Account – Grants**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to administer the Clean  
4 Energy Workforce Account; requiring the Department to award grants provided by  
5 the Account in accordance with certain provisions of law; requiring the Department  
6 to develop certain application guidelines; requiring the Department, in developing  
7 the application guidelines, to provide opportunity for certain individuals to review  
8 and comment on the guidelines and incorporate certain comments into the  
9 guidelines; making clarifying changes; and generally relating to the Clean Energy  
10 Workforce Account.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Labor and Employment  
13 Section 11–708.1(a) and (c)(1)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
17 Article – Labor and Employment  
18 Section 11–708.1(b)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

21 BY adding to  
22 Article – Labor and Employment  
23 Section 11–708.1(f)  
24 Annotated Code of Maryland  
25 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

26 Preamble

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, The Clean Energy Jobs Act established the Clean Energy Workforce  
2 Account within the Maryland Employment Advancement Right Now (EARN) Program; and

3 WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Labor administers the Maryland EARN  
4 Program; and

5 WHEREAS, The Clean Energy Workforce Account is funded from the Strategic  
6 Energy Investment Fund; and

7 WHEREAS, The Maryland Energy Administration administers the Strategic Energy  
8 Investment Fund; and

9 WHEREAS, Funding that the Clean Energy Workforce Account receives from the  
10 Strategic Energy Investment Fund must be used to invest in pre-apprenticeship, youth  
11 apprenticeship, and registered apprenticeship job training programs that establish career  
12 paths in the clean energy industry; now, therefore,

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

15 **Article – Labor and Employment**

16 11–708.1.

17 (a) **(1)** There is a Clean Energy Workforce Account.

18 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

19 **(I) ADMINISTER THE ACCOUNT; AND**

20 **(II) AWARD GRANTS FROM THE ACCOUNT IN ACCORDANCE WITH**  
21 **THIS SECTION.**

22 (b) The Account shall be funded from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund in  
23 accordance with § 9–20B–05(f)(10), (f–2), and (f–3) of the State Government Article.

24 (c) (1) The Account shall be used to provide grants to support **CLEAN ENERGY**  
25 **workforce development programs, INCLUDING PROGRAMS RELATING TO HEATING,**  
26 **VENTILATING, AND AIR–CONDITIONING (HVAC) SYSTEMS,** that provide:

27 (i) pre-apprenticeship jobs training;

28 (ii) youth apprenticeship jobs training; and

29 (iii) registered apprenticeship jobs training.

1           **(F) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**  
2 **DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR GRANTS AWARDED**  
3 **FROM THE ACCOUNT.**

4           **(2) IN DEVELOPING THE APPLICATION GUIDELINES, THE**  
5 **DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

6                   **(I) PROVIDE REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE**  
7 **INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRE-APPRENTICESHIP**  
8 **JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS, YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS,**  
9 **AND REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS TO REVIEW AND**  
10 **COMMENT ON THE GUIDELINES; AND**

11                   **(II) INCORPORATE INTO THE GUIDELINES, AS APPROPRIATE,**  
12 **THE COMMENTS PROVIDED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

13           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2020.