

# SENATE BILL 469

Q7, M5

3lr2829

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By: **Senators Elfreth and Guzzone**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2023

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Solar Tax Incentives**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Solar Tax Incentives; and  
4 generally relating to solar tax incentives.

5 Preamble

6 WHEREAS, The State has set a State renewable energy goal; and

7 WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes the need to preserve the State's prime  
8 agricultural land for agricultural production; and

9 WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes the need to preserve forest land and  
10 tree canopy for clean air and clean water; now, therefore,

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
12 That:

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Solar Tax Incentives.

14 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

15 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
16 the Senate;

17 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
18 the House;

19 (3) the Director of the Maryland Energy Administration, or the Director's  
20 designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) the Chairman of the Public Service Commission, or the Chairman's  
2 designee;

3 (5) the Director of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, or  
4 the Director's designee;

5 (6) three representatives of the Maryland Association of Counties  
6 representing rural, suburban, and urban counties, respectively, designated by the  
7 Maryland Association of Counties;

8 (7) one representative of the Maryland Municipal League, designated by  
9 the Maryland Municipal League; and

10 (8) four representatives of the solar energy industry, appointed by the  
11 Governor, including:

12 (i) at least one representative with a history of working with solar  
13 panels installed on rooftops;

14 (ii) at least one representative with a history of working with solar  
15 panels installed on the ground; and

16 (iii) at least one representative with a history of working with  
17 community solar energy generation.

18 (c) The Director of the Maryland Energy Administration shall designate the chair  
19 of the Task Force.

20 (d) The Maryland Energy Administration shall provide staff for the Task Force.

21 (e) A member of the Task Force:

22 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
24 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

25 (f) The Task Force shall study and make recommendations regarding a tax  
26 strategy that is more competitive than the State's current strategy to maximize the  
27 installation of rooftop solar panels, to facilitate and promote installation of grid-connected  
28 generation of renewable energy, and to meet the State's renewable energy goals.

29 (g) On or before December 15, 2023, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
30 recommendations, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, to the  
31 General Assembly.

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

1 1, 2023. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2024, this  
2 Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no  
3 further force and effect.