

SENATE BILL 636

E4, M5

3lr1740
CF 3lr1739

By: **Senator Mautz**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Solar Battery Energy Storage Systems**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring buildings where certain solar battery energy storage systems
4 are installed to be equipped with certain safety features; requiring the State Fire
5 Marshal to administer and enforce this Act; and generally relating to battery energy
6 storage system safety.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 12–706

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 **12–706.**

16 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “SOLAR BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM” MEANS
17 ONE OR MORE DEVICES, ASSEMBLED TOGETHER, CAPABLE OF STORING ENERGY
18 PRODUCED BY A SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM IN ORDER TO SUPPLY ELECTRICITY AT A
19 FUTURE TIME.

20 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A SOLAR BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE
21 SYSTEM THAT:

22 (1) HAS AN AGGREGATE ENERGY CAPACITY GREATER THAN 600
23 KILOWATT–HOURS; OR

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) COMPRISES MORE THAN ONE STORAGE BATTERY TECHNOLOGY**
2 **INSTALLED IN A SINGLE ROOM OR AN ENCLOSED AREA.**

3 **(C) EACH BUILDING WHERE A SOLAR BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM**
4 **IS INSTALLED SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH THE FOLLOWING SAFETY FEATURES IN**
5 **ACCORDANCE WITH ACCEPTABLE INDUSTRY STANDARDS:**

6 **(1) A SELF-CONTAINED FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM;**

7 **(2) AN EXPLOSION PREVENTION SYSTEM; AND**

8 **(3) AN AIR QUALITY MONITORING SYSTEM.**

9 **(D) THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL:**

10 **(1) SHALL ADMINISTER AND ENFORCE THIS SECTION; AND**

11 **(2) MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2023.