

Introduced 01.03.2023  
Public hearing 01.17.2023 + 02.21.2023  
Council action 03.06.2023  
Executive 03.09.2023  
Effective date 05.09.2023

**County Council of Howard County, Maryland**

2023 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

**BILL NO. 5 – 2023**

**Introduced by:** Christiana Rigby

**AN ACT** requiring the ~~Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits~~ County Executive to report to the County Council with recommendations about changes to the Howard County Building Code that would be needed to require all-electric buildings and ways the County can achieve certain climate goals and ways the County can maximize use of certain funds and ways the County can maximize certain investments, requiring the ~~Department~~ County Executive to consider specified exemptions and considerations and specific matters regarding system capacity; setting a certain deadline, defining certain terms, requiring the County Executive to offer net zero energy standards for County government-owned buildings, requesting the County Executive to provide an inventory of County buildings and their current energy sources, and generally relating to the Howard County Building Code.

Introduced and read first time Jan 1, 2023. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order Michelle Harrod  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on Jan 17, 2023. and February 21, 2023 (Sub. Change)

By order Michelle Harrod  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on Mar 6, 2023 and Passed     , Passed with amendments ✓, Failed     .

By order Michelle Harrod  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 8 day of March 2023 at 1<sup>00</sup> a.m./p.m.

By order Michelle Harrod  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive March 9, 2023

Calvin Ball  
Calvin Ball, County Executive

Note Substantive Change 2/6/2023 Michelle Harrod

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 WHEREAS, communities across the world are facing impacts from the ever-growing threat of  
2 global climate change, which includes rising temperatures, increased heat waves and  
3 droughts, more frequent severe weather events, sea level rise, and environmental  
4 degradation;

5 WHEREAS, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently  
6 published its Sixth Assessment Report on August 7, 2021, which highlights that climate  
7 change has occurred at an “unprecedented” pace and notes that “it is unequivocal that  
8 human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.”;

9 WHEREAS, the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report firmly establishes that “limiting human-induced  
10 global warming to a specific level requires limiting cumulative CO2 emissions, reaching  
11 at least net zero CO2 emissions, along with strong reductions in other greenhouse gas  
12 emissions.”;

13 WHEREAS, in ~~2023~~ 2022 the Maryland General Assembly passed the Climate Solutions Now  
14 Act, which requires the state of Maryland to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60%  
15 from 2006 levels by 2031 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2045;

16 WHEREAS, the preliminary report of Howard County’s Climate Action and Resiliency Plan  
17 (CARP) has determined that buildings account for roughly 40% of Howard County’s  
18 local greenhouse gas emissions, of which 11% of emissions are directly from on-site fuel  
19 combustion in buildings;

20 WHEREAS, the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) has identified that building  
21 decarbonization and electrification is an important policy tool to reduce greenhouse gas  
22 emissions in the building sector by shifting energy reliance to electricity instead of fossil  
23 fuel combustion;

24 WHEREAS, all-electric buildings provide Howard County residents with a multitude of benefits,  
25 including a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, improved air quality, better health  
26 outcomes, and energy affordability;

27 WHEREAS, Howard County must phase out the use of fossil fuels in new building construction  
28 in order to meet the emission reduction goals set forth by the Climate Solutions Now Act  
29 of ~~2023~~ 2022; and

30 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Howard County Council to address the effects of climate  
31 change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including through efforts to eliminate the

1 use of fossil fuels in new buildings and promote a clean and renewable energy future;

2  
3 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard  
4 County Code is amended as follows:

5 By adding:

6 Title 3. Buildings.

7 Subtitle 11. Miscellaneous.

8 Section 3.1101. Comprehensive Building Decarbonization.

9  
10  
11 **HOWARD COUNTY CODE**

12 **Title 3. Buildings.**

13 **Subtitle 11. Miscellaneous**

14  
15 **SEC. 3-1101. COMPREHENSIVE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION.**

16 (A) *DEFINITIONS.*

17 (1) IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:

18 (2) "ADDITION" MEANS CONSTRUCTION OF ANY NEW WALLED OR ROOFED EXPANSION  
19 TO THE PERIMETER OF A BUILDING IN WHICH THE ADDITION IS CONNECTED.

20 (3) "ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE BUILDING THAT CONTAINS  
21 NO COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT, OR PLUMBING FOR COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT, INSTALLED WITHIN THE  
22 BUILDING OR BUILDING SITE.

23 (4) "COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT" MEANS ANY EQUIPMENT OR APPLIANCE USED FOR  
24 SPACE HEATING, SERVICE WATER HEATING, COOKING, CLOTHES DRYING OR LIGHTING THAT USES  
25 FUEL GAS OR FUEL OIL.

26 (5) "MAJOR RENOVATION" MEANS ANY RENOVATION WHERE THE WORK AREA EXCEEDS  
27 50% OR MORE OF MAJOR STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS, INCLUDING EXTERIOR WALLS, INTERIOR  
28 WALLS, FLOOR AREA, ROOF STRUCTURE, OR FOUNDATION, OR HAS AN INCREASE OF 50% OR MORE  
29 OF FLOOR AREA.

1           (6)    “NEW CONSTRUCTION” MEANS THE CONSTRUCTION OF ANY NEW STAND-ALONE  
2 BUILDING, WITH NO REMNANTS OF ANY PRIOR STRUCTURE OR PHYSICAL CONNECTION TO EXISTING  
3 STRUCTURES OR OUTBUILDINGS ON THE PROPERTY.

4           (7)    “NET ZERO ENERGY” MEANS THAT 100% OF THE OPERATIONAL ENERGY USE  
5 ASSOCIATED WITH A PROJECT IS OFFSET BY NEW ON-SITE RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY, AND IF THE  
6 MAXIMUM ON-SITE RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY IS INADEQUATE TO FULLY OFFSET THE OPERATIONAL  
7 ENERGY USE, OPERATIONAL ENERGY USE IS OFFSET BY USING OFF-SITE RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY  
8 SUPPLY.

9    (B)    *RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORT.*

10    ~~—— (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT~~  
11 ~~OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES, AND PERMITS SHALL:~~

12    ~~—— (1)(i) RECOMMEND CHANGES TO THE BUILDING CODE NECESSARY TO ENACT ALL-~~  
13 ~~ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARDS FOR ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR RENOVATIONS, AND~~  
14 ~~ADDITIONS; AND~~

15    ~~—— (2)(ii) SUBMIT THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS IN A REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL THAT~~  
16 ~~SPECIFIES THE CHANGES THAT WOULD BE NEEDED IN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE TO~~  
17 ~~IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS.~~

18           ~~(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS IS REQUESTED TO INCLUDE IN~~  
19 ~~THE REPORT REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION, AN INVENTORY OF COUNTY BUILDINGS AND THEIR~~  
20 ~~CURRENT ENERGY SOURCES.~~

21    (C)    ~~EXEMPTIONS.~~

22    ~~—— THE DEPARTMENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS SHALL INCLUDE AN EVALUATION OF:~~

23    ~~—— (1) EXEMPTIONS FOR A PROJECT IF THE APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT WAS~~  
24 ~~SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE~~  
25 ~~DATE OF THE ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARDS; AND~~

26    ~~—— (2) EXEMPTIONS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR RENOVATIONS, OR ADDITIONS:~~

27           ~~(i) TO THE FOLLOWING BUILDINGS:~~

28                   ~~1. HOSPITALS;~~

29                   ~~2. MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES;~~

- ~~3. CREMATORIES;~~
- ~~4. LIFE SCIENCES FACILITIES;~~
- ~~5. COMMERCIAL KITCHENS, RESTAURANTS, AND FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS;~~
- ~~6. BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES AND~~
- ~~7. FARMING AND AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES;~~

~~(II) TO BUILDINGS TO THE EXTENT THAT SYSTEMS IN THE BUILDINGS INVOLVE EMERGENCY BACKUP EQUIPMENT;~~

~~(III) TO AN ELECTRIC POWER OR STEAM GENERATING UTILITY REGULATED BY THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AND~~

~~(IV) TO DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEMS OR COMBINED HEAT AND POWER FACILITIES.~~

~~(D) CONSIDERATIONS:~~

~~TO THE MAXIMUM DEGREE POSSIBLE, THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS SHALL BE FORMULATED TO REQUIRE THE WIDESPREAD UTILIZATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING, OF APPLIANCES AND TECHNOLOGIES THAT PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, MINIMIZE ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION, AND PRIORITIZE A REDUCTION IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.~~

THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL ISSUE A REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL ON:

(1) RECOMMENDATIONS ON CHANGES TO THE BUILDING CODE NECESSARY TO ENACT ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARDS FOR ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR RENOVATIONS, AND ADDITIONS;

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS THAT SPECIFY THE CHANGES THAT WOULD BE NEEDED IN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS;

(3) RECOMMENDATIONS THAT SPECIFY WHICH STRETCH CODES CAN BE USED TO ENHANCE ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARDS REQUIRED BY THE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW ACT OF 2022, CHAPTER 38, ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 2022; AND

(4) RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE USE OF ELECTRIC HEAT PUMPS VERSUS BUILT-IN ELECTRIC RESISTANCE HEAT COMMONLY USED IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS TO OFFSET COSTS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS;

(5) OFFERING NET-ZERO ENERGY STANDARDS FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT-OWNED

1 BUILDINGS;

2 (6) AN EVALUATION OF:

3 (I) EXEMPTIONS FOR PROJECTS IF THE APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT  
4 WAS SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND  
5 PERMITS BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING  
6 STANDARDS; AND

7 (II) EXEMPTIONS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR RENOVATIONS, OR  
8 ADDITIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BUILDINGS:

9 1. HOSPITALS;

10 2. MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES;

11 3. CREMATORIES;

12 4. LIFE SCIENCES FACILITIES;

13 5. COMMERCIAL KITCHENS, RESTAURANTS, AND FOOD SERVICE  
14 ESTABLISHMENTS;

15 6. BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES AND

16 7. FARMING AND AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES;

17 (III) BUILDINGS TO THE EXTENT THAT SYSTEMS IN THE BUILDINGS INVOLVE  
18 EMERGENCY BACKUP EQUIPMENT;

19 (IV) ELECTRIC POWER OR STEAM GENERATING UTILITIES REGULATED BY THE  
20 MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AND

21 (V) DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEMS OR COMBINED HEAT AND POWER FACILITIES;

22 (7) AN INVENTORY OF COUNTY BUILDINGS AND THEIR CURRENT ENERGY SOURCES;

23 (8) RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW THE COUNTY WILL REDUCE EMISSIONS OF  
24 GREENHOUSE GASES FROM BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS TO NOT LESS THAN 60% BELOW  
25 2006 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION LEVELS BY 2030 OR A LEVEL CONSISTENT WITH CARBON  
26 NEUTRALITY BY 2045, AND IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER; SPECIFYING HOW SUCH REDUCTION OF  
27 EMISSIONS WILL BE ACHIEVED WITH UNITS, DEPARTMENTS, OFFICES, OR AGENCIES RECEIVING  
28 FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL  
29 SYSTEM;

1           (9) RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW THE COUNTY WILL MAXIMIZE THE USE OF FEDERAL,  
2 STATE, AND OTHER CLIMATE ACTION INCENTIVES INCLUDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT  
3 AND JOBS ACT AND THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS;

4           (10) RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO MAXIMIZE RESIDENT INVESTMENT IN CLIMATE  
5 INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING REBATES ON RENEWABLE ENERGY EQUIPMENT AND NON-RENEWABLE  
6 ENERGY APPLIANCE REPLACEMENT AND RETROFIT PROGRAMS FOR LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME  
7 RESIDENTS; AND

8           (11) CONSIDERATIONS:

9                   (I) TO THE MAXIMUM DEGREE POSSIBLE, THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS  
10 SHALL BE FORMULATED TO REQUIRE THE WIDESPREAD UTILIZATION, PARTICULARLY IN  
11 AFFORDABLE HOUSING, OF APPLIANCES AND TECHNOLOGIES THAT PROMOTE ENERGY  
12 EFFICIENCY, MINIMIZE ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION, AND PRIORITIZE A REDUCTION IN  
13 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

14                   (II) THE REPORT REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION SHALL  
15 INCORPORATE THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE STATE BUILDING CODES  
16 ADMINISTRATION MAKES IN ITS FINAL REPORT AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 10(B)(3)(II) OF  
17 THE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW ACT OF 2022, CHAPTER 38, ACTS OF THE GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF 2022.

19  
20 ***Section 2. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the***  
21 ***Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits the County Executive shall submit the Report***  
22 ***required by Section 1 of this Act not later than ~~December 29, 2023~~, so that the recommendations***  
23 ***in the Report may be appropriately included in the Building Code 30 days after publication of***  
24 ***the Building Codes Administration's final report as required by Section 10(b)(3)(ii) of the***  
25 ***Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022, Chapter 38, Acts of the General Assembly of 2022.***

1  
2 **Section 3. Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the**  
3 **requirements of this Act shall remain in effect until Howard County amends the Howard County**  
4 **Building Code by adopting International Codes and, with no further action required by the County**  
5 **Council, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.**

6  
7 **Section 3 4. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this**  
8 **Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.**



BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on March 9, 2023.

Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_  
Public hearing \_\_\_\_\_  
Council action \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective date \_\_\_\_\_

**County Council of Howard County, Maryland**

2023 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

**BILL NO. 5 - 2023**

**Introduced by:** Christiana Rigby

**AN ACT** requiring the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits to report to the County Council with recommendations about changes to the Howard County Building Code that would be needed to require all-electric buildings, requiring the Department to consider specified exemptions and considerations; setting a certain deadline, and generally relating to the Howard County Building Code.

Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2023. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 at \_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 WHEREAS, communities across the world are facing impacts from the ever-growing threat of  
2 global climate change, which includes rising temperatures, increased heat waves and  
3 droughts, more frequent severe weather events, sea level rise, and environmental  
4 degradation;

5 WHEREAS, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently  
6 published its Sixth Assessment Report on August 7, 2021, which highlights that climate  
7 change has occurred at an “unprecedented” pace and notes that “it is unequivocal that  
8 human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.”

9 WHEREAS, the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report firmly establishes that “limiting human-induced  
10 global warming to a specific level requires limiting cumulative CO2 emissions, reaching  
11 at least net zero CO2 emissions, along with strong reductions in other greenhouse gas  
12 emissions.”;

13 WHEREAS, in 2023, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Climate Solutions Now Act,  
14 which requires the state of Maryland to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60% from  
15 2006 levels by 2031 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2045;

16 WHEREAS, the preliminary report of Howard County’s Climate Action and Resiliency Plan  
17 (CARP) has determined that buildings account for roughly 40% of Howard County’s  
18 local greenhouse gas emissions, of which 11% of emissions are directly from on-site fuel  
19 combustion in buildings;

20 WHEREAS, the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) has identified that building  
21 decarbonization and electrification is an important policy tool to reduce greenhouse gas  
22 emissions in the building sector by shifting energy reliance to electricity instead of fossil  
23 fuel combustion;

24 WHEREAS, all-electric buildings provide Howard County residents with a multitude of benefits,  
25 including a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, improved air quality, better health  
26 outcomes, and energy affordability;

27 WHEREAS, Howard County must phase out the use of fossil fuels in new building construction  
28 in order to meet the emission reduction goals set forth by the Climate Solutions Now Act  
29 of 2023; and

30 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Howard County Council to address the effects of climate  
31 change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including through efforts to eliminate the

1 use of fossil fuels in new buildings and promote a clean and renewable energy future;

2  
3 **Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard  
4 County Code is amended as follows:

5 By adding:

6 Title 3. Buildings.

7 Subtitle 11. Miscellaneous.

8 Section 3.1101. Comprehensive Building Decarbonization.

9  
10  
11 **HOWARD COUNTY CODE**

12 **Title 3. Buildings.**

13 **Subtitle 11. Miscellaneous**

14  
15 **SEC. 3-1101. COMPREHENSIVE BUILDING DECARBONIZATION.**

16 (A) *DEFINITIONS.*

17 (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:

18 (2) "ADDITION" MEANS CONSTRUCTION OF ANY NEW WALLED OR ROOFED EXPANSION  
19 TO THE PERIMETER OF A BUILDING TO WHICH THE ADDITION IS CONNECTED.

20 (3) "ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE BUILDING THAT CONTAINS  
21 NO COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT OR PLUMBING FOR COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT, INSTALLED WITHIN THE  
22 BUILDING OR BUILDING SITE.

23 (4) "COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT" MEANS ANY EQUIPMENT OR APPLIANCE USED FOR  
24 SPACE HEATING, SERVICE WATER HEATING, COOKING, CLOTHES DRYING OR LIGHTING THAT USES  
25 FUEL GAS OR FUEL OIL.

26 (5) "MAJOR RENOVATION" MEANS ANY RENOVATION WHERE THE WORK AREA EXCEEDS  
27 50% OR MORE OF MAJOR STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS, INCLUDING EXTERIOR WALLS, INTERIOR  
28 WALLS, FLOOR AREA, ROOF STRUCTURE, OR FOUNDATION, OR HAS AN INCREASE OF 50% OR MORE  
29 OF FLOOR AREA.

1 (6) "NEW CONSTRUCTION" MEANS THE CONSTRUCTION OF ANY NEW STAND-ALONE  
2 BUILDING, WITH NO REMNANTS OF ANY PRIOR STRUCTURE OR PHYSICAL CONNECTION TO EXISTING  
3 STRUCTURES OR OUTBUILDINGS ON THE PROPERTY.

4 (B) *RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORT.*

5 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF  
6 INSPECTIONS, LICENSES, AND PERMITS SHALL:

7 (1) RECOMMEND CHANGES TO THE BUILDING CODE NECESSARY TO ENACT ALL-  
8 ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARDS FOR ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR RENOVATIONS, AND  
9 ADDITIONS; AND

10 (2) SUBMIT THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS IN A REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL THAT  
11 SPECIFIES THE CHANGES THAT WOULD BE NEEDED IN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE TO  
12 IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

13 (C) *EXEMPTIONS.*

14 THE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS SHALL INCLUDE AN EVALUATION OF:

15 (1) EXEMPTIONS FOR A PROJECT IF THE APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT WAS  
16 SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE  
17 DATE OF THE ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING STANDARDS; AND

18 (2) EXEMPTIONS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR RENOVATIONS, OR ADDITIONS:

19 (I) TO THE FOLLOWING BUILDINGS:

- 20 1. HOSPITALS;
- 21 2. MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES;
- 22 3. CREMATORIES;
- 23 4. LIFE SCIENCES FACILITIES;
- 24 5. COMMERCIAL KITCHENS, RESTAURANTS, AND FOOD SERVICE

25 ESTABLISHMENTS;

26 6. BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES AND

27 7. FARMING AND AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES;

28 (II) TO BUILDINGS TO THE EXTENT THAT SYSTEMS IN THE BUILDINGS INVOLVE

1 EMERGENCY BACKUP EQUIPMENT;

2 (III) TO AN ELECTRIC POWER OR STEAM GENERATING UTILITY REGULATED BY  
3 THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AND

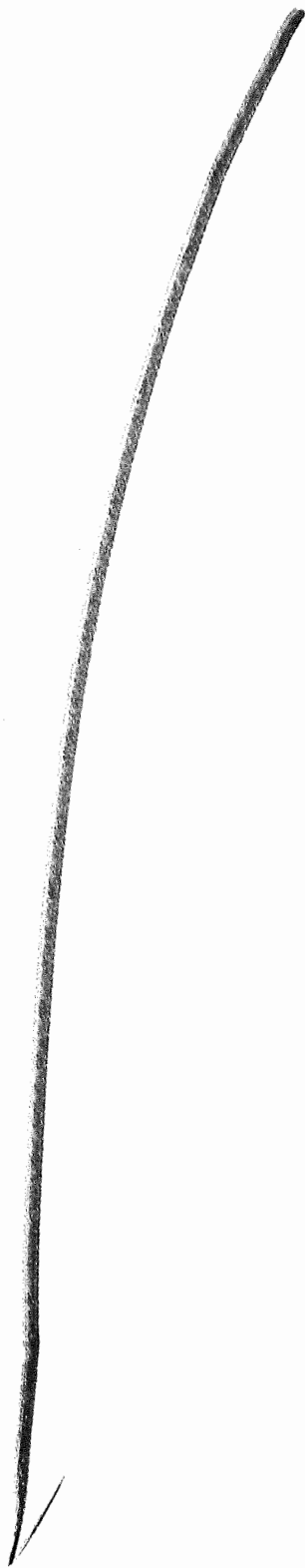
4 (IV) TO DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEMS OR COMBINED HEAT AND POWER FACILITIES.

5 (D) *CONSIDERATIONS.*

6 TO THE MAXIMUM DEGREE POSSIBLE, THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS SHALL BE  
7 FORMULATED TO REQUIRE THE WIDESPREAD UTILIZATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFFORDABLE  
8 HOUSING, OF APPLIANCES AND TECHNOLOGIES THAT PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, MINIMIZE  
9 ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION, AND PRIORITIZE A REDUCTION IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

10  
11 ***Section 2. Be it further enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the  
12 *Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits shall submit the Report required by Section 1*  
13 *of this Act not later than December 29, 2023, so that the recommendations in the Report may be*  
14 *appropriately included in the Building Code.*

15  
16 ***Section 3. Be it further enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Act  
17 *shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*



Amendment 5 to Council Bill No. 5-2023

BY: David Yungmann

Legislative Day No. 2

Date: February 6, 2023

Amendment No. 5

*(This amendment changes the due date and contents for the report.)*

1 On the title page, in the purpose paragraph, after “considerations” insert “and specific matters  
2 regarding system capacity”.

3 On page 4:

4 • In line 6, before “TO THE” insert “(1)”.

5 • After line 9, insert:

6 “(2) THE REPORT REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (B)(2) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCORPORATE  
7 THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE STATE BUILDING CODES  
8 ADMINISTRATION MAKES IN ITS FINAL REPORT AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 10(B)(3)(II) OF  
9 THE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW ACT OF 2022, CHAPTER 38, ACTS OF THE GENERAL  
10 ASSEMBLY OF 2022.”

11 • In line 13, strike “December 29, 2022”, so that the recommendations in the Report may be  
12 appropriately included in the Building Code” and substitute “90 days after publication of  
13 the Building Codes Administration’s final report as required by Section 10(b)(3)(ii) of the  
14 Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022, Chapter 38, Acts of the General Assembly of 2022.”.

15



