

HOUSE BILL 1100

M5, E4

3lr2494
CF 3lr2491

By: **Delegates Jacobs, Anderton, Arentz, Howard, McComas, T. Morgan, Otto, and Schmidt**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Battery Storage and Solar Arrays Safety Training Grant Program and Fund**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Battery Storage and Solar Arrays Safety Training
4 Grant Program in the Maryland Energy Administration to provide grants to local
5 governments to train local fire departments on certain safety aspects associated with
6 lithium-ion battery storage systems installed with solar arrays; requiring the
7 Administration, in consultation with certain entities, to establish certain training
8 and emergency response standards; establishing the Battery Storage and Solar
9 Arrays Safety Training Grant Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; and generally
10 relating to lithium-ion battery storage systems and solar arrays.

11 BY adding to
12 Article – State Government
13 Section 9–2016 and 9–20B–05(f)(12)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
17 Article – State Government
18 Section 9–20B–05(a)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
22 Article – State Government
23 Section 9–20B–05(f)(11) and (12)
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

Article – State Government

9–2016.

**(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
INDICATED.**

**(2) “FUND” MEANS THE BATTERY STORAGE AND SOLAR ARRAYS
SAFETY TRAINING GRANT FUND.**

**(3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE BATTERY STORAGE AND SOLAR ARRAYS
SAFETY TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM.**

(4) “SOLAR ARRAY” MEANS A SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING FACILITY.

**(B) THERE IS A BATTERY STORAGE AND SOLAR ARRAYS SAFETY TRAINING
GRANT PROGRAM IN THE ADMINISTRATION.**

**(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS TO TRAIN LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS ON:**

**(1) THE DANGERS AND HAZARDS OF LITHIUM–ION BATTERY STORAGE
SYSTEMS INSTALLED WITH SOLAR ARRAYS; AND**

**(2) HOW TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES INVOLVING LITHIUM–ION
BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEMS INSTALLED WITH SOLAR ARRAYS.**

(D) (1) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

(I) ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM;

**(II) ESTABLISH APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR THE
PROGRAM;**

**(III) ESTABLISH TRAINING AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE
STANDARDS FOR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS RELATING TO LITHIUM–ION BATTERY
STORAGE SYSTEMS INSTALLED WITH SOLAR ARRAYS; AND**

(IV) AWARD GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM.

1 **(2) IN CARRYING OUT THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)**
2 **OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSULT WITH:**

3 **(I) THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT;**

4 **(II) THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AND**

5 **(III) THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL.**

6 **(3) IN AWARDING GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION, THE**
7 **ADMINISTRATION SHALL ENSURE THAT THE AMOUNT OF A GRANT AWARDED TO A**
8 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS PROPORTIONAL TO THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY DEPLOYED**
9 **FROM LITHIUM-ION BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEMS INSTALLED WITH SOLAR ARRAYS**
10 **WITHIN THE JURISDICTION.**

11 **(E) (1) THERE IS A BATTERY STORAGE AND SOLAR ARRAYS SAFETY**
12 **TRAINING GRANT FUND.**

13 **(2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

14 **(3) (I) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT**
15 **SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

16 **(II) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND**
17 **SEPARATELY, AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**

18 **(4) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

19 **(I) FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO THE FUND UNDER § 9-20B-05 OF**
20 **THIS TITLE;**

21 **(II) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE**
22 **FUND; AND**

23 **(III) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED**
24 **FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

25 **(5) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR:**

26 **(I) PROVIDING GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM TO LOCAL**
27 **GOVERNMENTS; AND**

28 **(II) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM.**

1 **(6) (I) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE**
2 **FUND IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

3 **(II) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE**
4 **CREDITED TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.**

5 **(F) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
6 **SECTION.**

7 9–20B–05.

8 (a) There is a Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

9 (f) The Administration shall use the Fund:

10 (11) to provide at least \$500,000 each year to the Resiliency Hub Grant
11 Program Fund under § 9–2011 of this title; [and]

12 **(12) TO PROVIDE AT LEAST \$1,000,000 TO THE BATTERY STORAGE**
13 **AND SOLAR ARRAYS SAFETY TRAINING GRANT FUND UNDER § 9–2016 OF THIS**
14 **TITLE; AND**

15 **[(12)] (13)** to pay the expenses of the Program.

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