

HOUSE BILL 1395

C5

7lr3202

By: **Delegate A. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Solar Energy Grant Program – Energy Storage**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that the Solar Energy Grant Program in the Maryland
4 Energy Administration may award grants not to exceed certain amounts for the
5 installed cost of certain energy storage equipment; adding grants for certain energy
6 storage equipment to the purposes of the Program; defining “energy storage
7 equipment”; authorizing the Director of the Administration to designate certain
8 equipment as energy storage equipment; and generally relating to the Solar Energy
9 Grant Program and energy storage.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – State Government
12 Section 9–2001
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – State Government
17 Section 9–2007
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – State Government**

23 9–2001.

24 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(b) “Administration” means the Maryland Energy Administration.

(c) “Director” means the Director of the Maryland Energy Administration.

9–2007.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) (I) “ENERGY STORAGE EQUIPMENT” MEANS A DEVICE OR FACILITY THAT:

1. IS USED TO STORE ENERGY FOR USE AT A LATER TIME, OR FOR USE IN A PROCESS THAT OFFSETS ELECTRICITY USE; AND

2. HAS A CAPACITY OF AT LEAST 5 KILOWATT-HOURS.

(II) “ENERGY STORAGE EQUIPMENT” INCLUDES:

1. A BATTERY OR ANY OTHER ELECTROCHEMICAL FORM OF STORAGE;

2. A CAPACITOR;

3. COMPRESSED AIR;

4. PUMPED HYDROPOWER;

5. HYDROGEN STORAGE, INCLUDING HYDROLYSIS;

6. THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE;

7. A REGENERATIVE FUEL CELL;

8. A FLYWHEEL;

9. A SUPERCONDUCTING MAGNET; AND

10. ANY OTHER SIMILAR DEVICE OR FACILITY THAT THE DIRECTOR IDENTIFIES AS ENERGY STORAGE EQUIPMENT UNDER THIS SECTION.

[(2)] (3) “Installed electricity generation capacity” means the maximum direct current power output in watts of the array of photovoltaic modules rated under standard test condition.

1 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) “Photovoltaic property” means solar energy property with an
2 installed electricity generation capacity of 20 kilowatts or less that uses a solar photovoltaic
3 process to generate electricity and that meets applicable performance and quality
4 standards and certification requirements in effect at the time of acquisition of the property,
5 as specified by the Maryland Energy Administration.

6 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) “Program” means the Solar Energy Grant Program.

7 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) (i) “Solar energy property” means equipment that uses solar
8 energy:

9 1. to generate electricity;

10 2. to heat or cool a structure or provide hot water for use in
11 a structure; or

12 3. to provide solar process heat.

13 (ii) “Solar energy property” does not include a swimming pool, hot
14 tub, or any other energy storage medium that has a function other than storage.

15 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) “Solar water heating property” means solar energy property that:

16 (i) when installed in connection with a structure, uses solar energy
17 for the purpose of providing hot water for use within the structure; and

18 (ii) meets applicable performance and quality standards and
19 certification requirements in effect at the time of acquisition of the property, as specified
20 by the Maryland Energy Administration.

21 (b) There is a Solar Energy Grant Program in the Administration.

22 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals, local
23 governments, and businesses for a portion of the costs of acquiring and installing
24 photovoltaic property ~~[and]~~, solar water heating property, **AND ENERGY STORAGE**
25 **EQUIPMENT.**

26 (d) The Administration shall:

27 (1) administer the Program;

28 (2) establish application procedures for the Program; and

29 (3) award grants from the Program.

30 (e) A grant awarded under the Program may not exceed:

(1) for photovoltaic property, the lesser of \$2,500 per kilowatt of installed electricity generation capacity or \$10,000; [and]

(2) for solar water heating property, the lesser of \$3,000 or 30% of the total installed cost of the solar water heating property; AND

(3) FOR ENERGY STORAGE EQUIPMENT, THE LESSER OF \$3,000 OR 30% OF THE TOTAL INSTALLED COST OF THE ENERGY STORAGE EQUIPMENT.

(f) Subject to the limitations in subsection (e) of this section, the Administration may adjust the grant amounts under the Program to reflect market conditions and the prevailing prices of photovoltaic property [and], solar water heating property, AND ENERGY STORAGE EQUIPMENT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.