

HOUSE BILL 74

M3

71r0891

By: **Delegates Krebs, Ali, Anderson, Aumann, Eckardt, Elliott, Elmore, George, Haddaway, Holmes, Kach, Kaiser, Minnick, Montgomery, Morhaim, Olszewski, Shewell, Sophocleus, Stocksdales, and Weldon Weldon, Bartlett, Burns, Doory, Feldman, Hecht, Impallaria, Jameson, J. King, Krysiak, Love, Manno, Mathias, McHale, Miller, Rudolph, Stifler, Taylor, Vaughn, and Walkup**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2007

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 19, 2007

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Solar and Geothermal Energy Grant Program – Grant Awards**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the Solar Energy Grant Program in the Maryland Energy
4 Administration to be the Solar and Geothermal Energy Grant Program; altering
5 the maximum amount of certain grants under the ~~Solar Energy Grant~~ Program
6 ~~administered by the Maryland Energy Administration; providing certain grants~~
7 to individuals, local governments, and businesses for certain portions of the
8 costs of acquiring and installing certain geothermal property; limiting the
9 amount of certain grants awarded under the Program for geothermal property;
10 defining a certain term; repealing certain provisions relating to geothermal
11 property; and generally relating to the Solar and Geothermal Energy Grant
12 Program.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – State Government
15 Section 9–2007

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

3 BY repealing

4 Article – State Government

5 Section 9–2008

6 Annotated Code of Maryland

7 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

10 **Article – State Government**

11 9–2007.

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

13 (2) **“GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY” MEANS A HEATING AND COOLING**
14 **DEVICE THAT IS INSTALLED USING GROUND LOOP TECHNOLOGY.**

15 **(3)** “Photovoltaic property” means solar energy property that uses a
16 solar photovoltaic process to generate electricity and that meets applicable
17 performance and quality standards and certification requirements in effect at the time
18 of acquisition of the property, as specified by the Maryland Energy Administration.

19 ~~(3)~~ **(4)** “Program” means the Solar **AND GEOTHERMAL** Energy Grant
20 Program.

21 ~~(4)~~ **(5)** (i) “Solar energy property” means equipment that uses solar
22 energy:

23 1. to generate electricity;

24 2. to heat or cool a structure or provide hot water for use
25 in a structure; or

26 3. to provide solar process heat.

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

1 ~~(5)~~ **(6)** “Solar water heating property” means solar energy property
2 that:

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

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

8 (b) There is a Solar AND GEOTHERMAL Energy Grant Program in the
9 Administration.

10 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals, local
11 governments, and businesses for a portion of the costs of acquiring and installing
12 photovoltaic property ~~and~~, solar water heating property, AND GEOTHERMAL
13 PROPERTY.

14 (d) The Administration shall:

15 (1) administer the Program;

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

17 (3) award grants from the Program.

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

19 (1) for photovoltaic property installed on residential property, the
20 lesser of [~~\$3,000~~] **\$20,000** or [20%] **50%** of the total installed cost of the photovoltaic
21 property;

22 (2) for photovoltaic property installed on nonresidential property, the
23 lesser of [~~\$5,000~~] **\$60,000** or [20%] **50%** of the total installed cost of the photovoltaic
24 property; ~~and~~

25 (3) for solar water heating property, the lesser of [~~\$2,000~~] **\$3,500** or
26 [20%] **50%** of the total installed cost of the solar water heating property; AND

27 **(4) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, FOR**
28 **GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY INSTALLED ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, AN AMOUNT**
29 **THAT MAY NOT EXCEED \$1,000.**

1 (F) NOT MORE THAN 10% OF THE MONEY IN THE PROGRAM MAY BE
 2 USED FOR GEOTHERMAL PROPERTY GRANTS UNDER SUBSECTION (E)(4) OF
 3 THIS SECTION.

4 [9-2008.

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

6 (2) “Geothermal heat pump” means a heating and cooling device that
 7 is installed using ground loop technology.

8 (3) “Program” means the Geothermal Heat Pump Grant Program.

9 (b) There is a Geothermal Heat Pump Grant Program in the Administration.

10 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals for a
 11 portion of the cost of acquiring and installing a geothermal heat pump.

12 (d) The Administration shall:

13 (1) administer the Program;

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

15 (3) award grants from the Program.

16 (e) A grant awarded under the Program may not exceed \$1,000.]

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 18 July 1, 2007.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.