

(ii) Be expended for replacement or repair of eligible items to the extent that insurance proceeds are available for those purposes.

(2) A volunteer fire company or rescue squad receiving trust funds under this section shall provide at least a 30 percent matching dollar amount for grants or loans, as the case may be. If a volunteer fire company or rescue squad cannot reasonably provide the required dollar match prior to disbursement of trust funds, the Board of Public Works may waive that requirement or provide for repayment of the matching dollar amount within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 18 months from the date of purchase of the equipment or facilities.

(3) Funds to provide the required matching dollar amount may include contributions from local government. However, a local government may not reduce the amount of money that the volunteer fire company or rescue squad would otherwise be entitled to receive from the local government because of State financial assistance provided under this section.

(4) Financial assistance from the trust fund may not be approved if a volunteer company has not made a good faith effort to obtain funds from its local government.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Approved May 8, 1997.

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**CHAPTER 484**

**(House Bill 869)**

AN ACT concerning

**Solar Electrical Generation – Net Energy Metering**

FOR the purpose of promoting the use of solar electricity generation in the State; defining certain terms; stating findings of the General Assembly; requiring the use of a certain meter type for net energy metering; requiring the Public Service Commission to develop certain contracts or tariffs for certain customer-generators under certain circumstances; establishing certain requirements for certain net energy metering contracts and tariffs; establishing requirements for certain billing calculations ~~and credits~~; requiring certain customer-generators to meet certain standards; authorizing the Commission to adopt certain regulations regarding public safety and system reliability; prohibiting certain electric companies from imposing certain additional requirements on certain customer-generators; and generally relating to solar electricity generation and net energy metering.

BY adding to

Article 78 – Public Service Commission Law  
Section 54M