

Works; requiring the Interagency Council and Maryland Energy Administration to cooperate, to assist, to provide technical assistance to, and to advise school systems on certain matters; and generally relating to the pilot program to use solar energy in public school buildings.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 5–301.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

5–301.1.

(a) (1) There is a solar energy pilot program to promote the use of solar energy systems to generate electricity in public school buildings in the State.

(2) The pilot program shall be implemented and administered by the Interagency Committee on School Construction and shall operate as provided in this section.

(b) The Interagency Committee shall:

(1) Encourage all local boards in the State to study, design, and construct or renovate school buildings that are energy efficient and use solar energy systems to generate electricity to meet [a certain percent] SOME of the school building's electrical energy needs, electrical energy demand, or a combination of the electrical energy needs and electrical energy demand;

(2) Provide grants out of State funds dedicated for this program to local boards to assist in implementing the use of solar energy systems [in newly constructed] AT EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR IN NEW or renovated school [buildings] BUILDING PROJECTS; and

(3) Develop a procedure for a local board to apply for a grant in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

(c) (1) A local board may apply to the Interagency Committee for a grant to cover 90% of the [total additional cost of constructing or renovating school buildings to utilize solar energy systems to meet the following percentages of the school buildings' electrical energy needs, electrical energy demand, or a combination of the electrical energy needs and electrical energy demand:

(i) For an elementary school, at least 20%;

(ii) For a middle school, at least 15%; and