

# HOUSE BILL 19

C5

8lr1210

(PRE-FILED)

---

By: **Delegate Brooks**

Requested: November 15, 2017

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2018

Assigned to: Economic Matters

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Solar Energy Grant Program – Minimum Grant Amounts**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing certain minimum grant amounts under the Solar Energy  
4 Grant Program for certain solar energy property installed at a certain homeowner's  
5 principal residence under certain circumstances; making stylistic changes; and  
6 generally relating to solar energy grants.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – State Government

9 Section 9–2001(a) and (b)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – State Government

14 Section 9–2007

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – State Government**

20 9–2001.

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

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

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 9–2007.

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

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

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

11 (4) “Program” means the Solar Energy Grant Program.

12 (5) (i) “Solar energy property” means equipment that uses solar energy:

13 1. to generate electricity;

14 2. to heat or cool a structure or provide hot water for use in  
15 a structure; or

16 3. to provide solar process heat.

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

19 (6) “Solar water heating property” means solar energy property that:

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

22 (ii) meets applicable performance and quality standards and  
23 certification requirements in effect at the time of acquisition of the property, as specified  
24 by the [Maryland Energy] Administration.

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

26 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to individuals, local  
27 governments, and businesses for a portion of the costs of acquiring and installing  
28 photovoltaic property and solar water heating property.

29 (d) The Administration shall:

30 (1) administer the Program;

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

2 (3) award grants from the Program.

3 (e) (1) A grant awarded under the Program may not exceed:

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

6 [(2)] (II) for solar water heating property, the lesser of \$3,000 or 30% of  
7 the total installed cost of the solar water heating property.

8 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A  
9 GRANT AWARDED TO A HOMEOWNER FOR THE HOMEOWNER'S PRINCIPAL  
10 RESIDENCE:

11 (I) FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC PROPERTY, SHALL BE AT LEAST  
12 \$2,000; AND

13 (II) FOR SOLAR WATER HEATING PROPERTY WITH A  
14 COLLECTING AREA OF 10 TO 100 SQUARE FEET, SHALL BE AT LEAST \$1,000.

15 (f) Subject to the limitations in subsection (e) of this section, the Administration  
16 may adjust the grant amounts under the Program to reflect market conditions and the  
17 prevailing prices of photovoltaic property and solar water heating property.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
19 1, 2018.