

HOUSE BILL 586

E4, C5
HB 1486/18 – ECM

9lr2217

By: **Delegate Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2019

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Solar Photovoltaic Systems – Lockout Tag Requirement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a company that leases solar photovoltaic systems to install a
4 certain lockout tag containing a safety warning under certain circumstances;
5 requiring a certain company to provide a certain customer with a certain lockout tag
6 for a solar photovoltaic system that has previously been installed; providing for the
7 enforcement of this Act; establishing a penalty for certain violations of this Act;
8 specifying that a local government shall retain certain funds; defining certain terms;
9 and generally relating to safety warnings for solar photovoltaic installations.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Public Safety

12 Section 12–705

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2018 Replacement Volume)

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

17 **Article – Public Safety**

18 **12–705.**

19 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
20 INDICATED.

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 **(2) “KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX” MEANS A CONTROL**
2 **SWITCH FOR A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION AT A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.**

3 **(3) “LOCKOUT TAG” MEANS A TAG THAT:**

4 **(I) SEALS A KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX CLOSED;**

5 **(II) IS ATTACHED TO THE EXTERIOR OF THE KNIFE BLADE**
6 **DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX WITH A METAL OR PLASTIC STRAP; AND**

7 **(III) INCLUDES A SAFETY WARNING ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR**
8 **ELECTROCUTION IF AN INDIVIDUAL REMOVES THE LOCKOUT TAG OR TOUCHES THE**
9 **CONTENTS OF THE KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX.**

10 **(B) (1) A COMPANY THAT LEASES SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS SHALL**
11 **INSTALL A LOCKOUT TAG AT EACH RESIDENTIAL INSTALLATION AT THE TIME OF**
12 **INSTALLATION.**

13 **(2) A COMPANY THAT HAS PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED A SOLAR**
14 **PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM ON A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SHALL PROVIDE THE**
15 **CUSTOMER WITH A LOCKOUT TAG WITH DIRECTIONS ON HOW THE LOCKOUT TAG**
16 **SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE KNIFE BLADE DISCONNECT SWITCH BOX.**

17 **(C) (1) A COMPANY THAT LEASES SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS**
18 **SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF AT LEAST \$100 BUT**
19 **NOT MORE THAN \$500 IF THE COMPANY FAILS TO:**

20 **(I) INSTALL A LOCKOUT TAG ON A NEW INSTALLATION; OR**

21 **(II) PROVIDE TO A CUSTOMER A LOCKOUT TAG FOR A SOLAR**
22 **PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM THAT THE COMPANY PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED.**

23 **(2) THE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS REQUIRED TO INSPECT A SOLAR**
24 **PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE CODE STANDARDS**
25 **SHALL ENFORCE THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

26 **(3) THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT PERFORMS OR OVERSEES THE**
27 **INSPECTION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL RETAIN**
28 **ANY PENALTY COLLECTED FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
30 1, 2019.