

# HOUSE BILL 1295

F1

0lr2870

---

By: **Delegates Solomon, Acevero, Bridges, Charkoudian, Fraser–Hidalgo, Hill,  
Lehman, Love, Stein, and Stewart**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Appropriations

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public School Construction – School District Energy Use – Policy and Study**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting, beginning on a certain date, the Interagency Commission  
4 on School Construction from approving a public school construction project for a  
5 school district that has not adopted or updated a certain school district energy policy;  
6 specifying the contents of a school district energy policy; encouraging school districts  
7 to set certain targets in their school district energy policy; requiring that a school  
8 district energy policy be posted on the school district’s website and updated with a  
9 certain frequency; requiring the Interagency Commission to coordinate with the  
10 Department of the Environment and the Maryland Energy Administration to  
11 develop a certain template on or before a certain date; requiring the Interagency  
12 Commission to coordinate with the Administration and the Maryland Clean Energy  
13 Center to study and make recommendations regarding the Maryland Net Zero  
14 Energy School Initiative Grant Program; requiring the Interagency Commission to  
15 report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain  
16 date; and generally relating to public school construction and school district energy  
17 policies.

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Education

20 Section 5–312.1

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – Education**

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **5-312.1.**

2 (A) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION MAY NOT  
3 APPROVE A PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT  
4 THAT HAS NOT ADOPTED OR UPDATED A SCHOOL DISTRICT ENERGY POLICY AS  
5 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.

6 (B) A SCHOOL DISTRICT ENERGY POLICY MUST:

7 (1) ADDRESS THE PURCHASING, CONSERVATION, AND EFFICIENCY  
8 OF ENERGY FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT;

9 (2) PROVIDE FOR THE MONITORING AND REPORTING OF:

10 (I) THE AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY USED FROM RENEWABLE  
11 ENERGY SOURCES;

12 (II) THE PERCENTAGE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ANNUAL  
13 ELECTRICITY USE THAT IS FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES; AND

14 (III) THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OVERALL ELECTRICITY USE BY  
15 SOURCE AND SQUARE FOOT; AND

16 (3) INCLUDE CURRENT AND HISTORICAL DATA ON THE SCHOOL  
17 DISTRICT'S ENERGY USE.

18 (C) IN DEVELOPING A SCHOOL DISTRICT ENERGY POLICY, EACH SCHOOL  
19 DISTRICT IS ENCOURAGED TO SET TARGETS TO INCREASE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S  
20 USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND REDUCE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S GREENHOUSE  
21 GAS EMISSIONS.

22 (D) THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ENERGY POLICY SHALL BE:

23 (1) POSTED ON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S WEBSITE; AND

24 (2) UPDATED EVERY 2 YEARS.

25 (E) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2021, THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION  
26 SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE  
27 MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION TO DEVELOP A STANDARDIZED REPORTING  
28 TEMPLATE THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS CAN USE TO REPORT ON:

29 (1) THE AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY

1 SOURCES THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT USED;

2 (2) THE PERCENTAGE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ANNUAL  
3 ELECTRICITY USE THAT IS FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES; AND

4 (3) THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OVERALL ELECTRICITY USE BY:

5 (I) SOURCE:

6 (II) SQUARE FOOT; AND

7 (III) INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL, IF POSSIBLE.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

9 (a) The Interagency Commission on School Construction shall coordinate with the  
10 Maryland Energy Administration and the Maryland Clean Energy Center to study and  
11 make recommendations on how to:

12 (1) expand the Maryland Net Zero Energy School Initiative Grant  
13 Program; and

14 (2) provide additional funding for the Maryland Net Zero Energy School  
15 Initiative Grant Program.

16 (b) On or before December 1, 2020, the Interagency Commission on School  
17 Construction shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in  
18 accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

19 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
20 1, 2020.