

SENATE BILL 54

L1, M5

11r0052

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chair, Finance Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Energy Administration)**

Requested: September 23, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Government – Clean Energy Loan Programs – Grid Resilience Projects**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the purpose of a certain clean energy loan program established
4 by a county or municipality to include loans to certain residential and commercial
5 property owners to finance certain grid resilience projects; requiring a certain
6 ordinance or resolution that establishes a certain clean energy loan program to
7 include certain eligibility requirements for certain grid resilience projects; and
8 generally relating to clean energy loan programs established by counties and
9 municipalities.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Local Government
12 Section 1–1101 and 1–1102
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2013 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Local Government
17 Section 1–1103 and 1–1104
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2013 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Local Government**

23 1–1101.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

2 (b) “Bond” means a bond, note, or other similar instrument that a county or
3 municipality issues under this subtitle.

4 (c) “Chief executive” means the president, chair, mayor, county executive, or any
5 other chief executive officer of a county or municipality.

6 (d) “Commercial property” means real property that is:

7 (1) not designed principally or intended for human habitation; or

8 (2) used for human habitation and is improved by more than four single
9 family dwelling units.

10 (e) “Program” means a clean energy loan program established under this subtitle.

11 1–1102.

12 A county or municipality may enact an ordinance or a resolution to establish a clean
13 energy loan program.

14 1–1103.

15 (a) The purpose of a program is to provide loans to:

16 (1) residential property owners, including low income residential property
17 owners, to finance:

18 (I) energy efficiency [and] **PROJECTS;**

19 (II) renewable energy projects; and

20 (III) **GRID RESILIENCE PROJECTS WHEN INSTALLED WITH**
21 **ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS OR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS; AND**

22 (2) commercial property owners to finance:

23 (i) energy efficiency projects; [and]

24 (ii) renewable energy projects; **AND**

25 (III) **GRID RESILIENCE PROJECTS WHEN INSTALLED WITH**
26 **ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS OR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS.**

27 (b) A private lender may provide capital for a loan provided to a commercial

1 property owner under the program.

2 1–1104.

3 (a) An ordinance or resolution enacted under § 1–1102 of this subtitle shall
4 provide for:

5 (1) eligibility requirements for participation in the program, including
6 eligibility requirements for:

7 (i) energy efficiency improvements [and], renewable energy
8 devices, **AND GRID RESILIENCE MEASURES**; and

9 (ii) property and property owners; and

10 (2) loan terms and conditions.

11 (b) Eligibility requirements under subsection (a) of this section shall include a
12 requirement that the county or municipality give due regard to the property owner's ability
13 to repay a loan provided under the program, in a manner substantially similar to that
14 required for a mortgage loan under §§ 12–127, 12–311, 12–409.1, 12–925, and 12–1029 of
15 the Commercial Law Article.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2021.