

SENATE BILL 785

C8, M5

0lr3377
CF 0lr3507

By: **Senator Klausmeier**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Department of Labor – Clean Energy Workforce Account – Grants**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to administer the Clean
4 Energy Workforce Account; requiring the Department to award grants provided by
5 the Account in accordance with certain provisions of law; requiring the Department
6 to develop certain application guidelines; requiring the Department, in developing
7 the application guidelines, to provide opportunity for certain individuals to review
8 and comment on the guidelines and incorporate certain comments into the
9 guidelines; making clarifying changes; and generally relating to the Clean Energy
10 Workforce Account.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Labor and Employment
13 Section 11–708.1(a) and (c)(1)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
17 Article – Labor and Employment
18 Section 11–708.1(b)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

21 BY adding to
22 Article – Labor and Employment
23 Section 11–708.1(f)
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

26 Preamble

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



WHEREAS, The Clean Energy Jobs Act established the Clean Energy Workforce Account within the Maryland Employment Advancement Right Now (EARN) Program; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Department of Labor administers the Maryland EARN Program; and

WHEREAS, The Clean Energy Workforce Account is funded from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Energy Administration administers the Strategic Energy Investment Fund; and

WHEREAS, Funding that the Clean Energy Workforce Account receives from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund must be used to invest in pre-apprenticeship, youth apprenticeship, and registered apprenticeship job training programs that establish career paths in the clean energy industry; now, therefore,

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

Article – Labor and Employment

11–708.1.

(a) **(1)** There is a Clean Energy Workforce Account.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(I) ADMINISTER THE ACCOUNT; AND

(II) AWARD GRANTS FROM THE ACCOUNT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

(b) The Account shall be funded from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund in accordance with § 9–20B–05(f)(10), (f–2), and (f–3) of the State Government Article.

(c) (1) The Account shall be used to provide grants to support **CLEAN ENERGY** workforce development programs, **INCLUDING PROGRAMS RELATING TO HEATING, VENTILATING, AND AIR–CONDITIONING (HVAC) SYSTEMS**, that provide:

(i) pre-apprenticeship jobs training;

(ii) youth apprenticeship jobs training; and

(iii) registered apprenticeship jobs training.

1 **(F) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
2 **DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR GRANTS AWARDED**
3 **FROM THE ACCOUNT.**

4 **(2) IN DEVELOPING THE APPLICATION GUIDELINES, THE**
5 **DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

6 **(I) PROVIDE REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE**
7 **INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRE-APPRENTICESHIP**
8 **JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS, YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS,**
9 **AND REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP JOBS TRAINING PROGRAMS TO REVIEW AND**
10 **COMMENT ON THE GUIDELINES; AND**

11 **(II) INCORPORATE INTO THE GUIDELINES, AS APPROPRIATE,**
12 **THE COMMENTS PROVIDED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

13 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
14 **October 1, 2020.**