

# SENATE BILL 655

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By: **Senator Hettleman**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **High Performance and Green Buildings – Community Colleges and Public**  
3 **Schools – Repeal of Requirements and Guidelines**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that the construction or renovation of certain  
5 community college buildings be done in a manner that makes the buildings high  
6 performance buildings; repealing the requirement that the Department of Budget  
7 and Management and the Department of General Services establish a process to  
8 allow a community college to obtain a waiver from the high performance buildings  
9 requirement; repealing a requirement that the Maryland Green Building Council  
10 develop guidelines for new public school buildings to achieve a certain rating without  
11 requiring an independent certification that the buildings have achieved the required  
12 standards; and generally relating to high performance building requirements and  
13 green building guidelines.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
16 Section 3–602.1(c) and (e) and 4–809(f)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
20 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
21 Section 4–809(a)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

26 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



3–602.1.

(c) (1) This subsection applies to[:

(i)] capital projects that are funded solely with State funds[; and

(ii) community college capital projects that receive State funds].

(2) Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, if a capital project includes the construction or major renovation of a building that is 7,500 square feet or greater, the building shall be constructed or renovated to be a high performance building.

(e) (1) The Department of Budget and Management and the Department of General Services shall jointly establish a process to allow a unit of State government [or a community college] to obtain a waiver from complying with subsection (c) of this section.

(2) The waiver process shall:

(i) include a review by the Maryland Green Building Council established under § 4–809 of this article, to determine if the use of a high performance building in a proposed capital project is not practicable; and

(ii) require the approval of a waiver by the Secretaries of Budget and Management, General Services, and Transportation.

4–809.

(a) There is a Maryland Green Building Council.

(f) The Maryland Green Building Council shall:

(1) evaluate current high performance building technologies;

(2) provide recommendations concerning the most cost–effective green building technologies that the State might consider requiring in the construction of State facilities, including consideration of the additional cost associated with the various technologies;

(3) provide recommendations concerning how to expand green building in the State;

(4) develop a list of building types for which green building technologies should not be applied, taking into consideration the operational aspects of facilities evaluated, and the utility of a waiver process where appropriate; **AND**

(5) establish a process for receiving public input[; and

1           (6)     develop guidelines for new public school buildings to achieve the  
2 equivalent of the current version of the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership  
3 in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System Silver rating or a  
4 comparable rating system or building code as authorized in § 3–602.1 of this article without  
5 requiring an independent certification that the buildings have achieved the required  
6 standards].

7           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
8 1, 2020.