
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 711 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SMITH, FONTANA, TEPLITZ, YUDICHAK, SCHWANK,
BREWSTER, TARTAGLIONE AND COSTA, APRIL 8, 2015

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, APRIL 8, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 9, 2008 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1),
2 entitled "An act providing for alternative sources of energy;
3 establishing the Alternative Energy Development Program, the
4 Consumer Energy Program, the Home Energy Efficiency Loan
5 Program, the Home Energy Efficiency Loan Fund and the
6 Alternative Energy Production Tax Credit Program; and
7 providing for the powers and duties of the Department of
8 Environmental Protection," providing for the definition of
9 "residential building"; and further providing for the
10 Commonwealth Financing Authority.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 102 of the act of July 9, 2008 (1st
14 Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), known as the Alternative Energy
15 Investment Act, is amended by adding a definition to read:

16 Section 102. Definitions.

17 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
18 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
19 context clearly indicates otherwise:

20 * * *

21 "Residential building." A building containing at least one
22 dwelling unit occupied by at least one tenant.

1 * * *

2 Section 2. Section 307(b) and (c) of the act are amended to
3 read:

4 Section 307. Commonwealth Financing Authority.

5 * * *

6 (b) Renewables.--The sum of \$25,000,000 shall be allocated
7 by the authority for loans or grants to projects related to
8 geothermal technologies, including geothermal heat pump systems
9 that use the ground, groundwater and underground mine water as a
10 thermal energy source, or wind energy projects, including
11 manufacturing facilities for wind turbines and other energy
12 components.

13 (c) High performance buildings.--

14 (1) The sum of \$25,000,000 shall be allocated by the
15 authority for loans or grants to one of the following to meet
16 energy efficient standards under paragraph (2):

17 (i) A [small] business, including a small business,
18 for the construction or renovation of a building for the
19 use of [the small] a business.

20 (ii) An individual for the construction or
21 renovation of a dwelling if the individual does or will
22 occupy the dwelling as his primary residence.

23 (iii) A business, including a small business, or an
24 individual for the construction or renovation of a
25 residential building.

26 (2) The Department of General Services shall adopt
27 standards for the certification of a high performance
28 building under this act, to include the following:

29 (i) Establishing high performance, nationally
30 recognized categories to achieve the following:

1 (A) Optimize the energy performance of
2 buildings.

3 (B) Increase the use of and demand for
4 environmentally preferable building materials,
5 furnishings and finishes.

6 (C) Improve environmental quality and conserve
7 natural resources in this Commonwealth.

8 (D) Select appropriate sites.

9 (E) Reduce pollutants and waste generation.

10 (F) Other criteria as required by the Department
11 of General Services.

12 (ii) Requiring documentation to substantiate
13 compliance with the guidelines.

14 (iii) Requiring third-party, postconstruction review
15 and verification.

16 * * *

17 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.