



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 5596

LCO No. 2084

02084_____ET_

Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO DRY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, "governing body" means any municipality, political
3 subdivision of the state, fire district, sewer district, village, beach or
4 improvement association or any other district or association or any
5 condominium or cooperative association; and "direct solar energy"
6 means direct sunlight or ambient outside air warmed by sunlight.

7 (b) No governing body may impose an ordinance, regulation or
8 other restriction prohibiting the drying of clothes using direct solar
9 energy through the use of clotheslines, drying racks or other apparatus
10 in any residential setting.

11 (c) No deed restrictions, covenants, landlord-tenant agreements,
12 private contracts or similar binding agreements running with the land
13 shall prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, the drying of clothes
14 using direct solar energy through the use of clotheslines, drying racks
15 or other apparatus in any residential setting, provided such
16 clotheslines, drying racks or other apparatus do not affect public

17 safety, including, but not limited to, hampering access to public
18 buildings or impeding rapid emergency egress.

19 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, a governing body
20 may prohibit the drying of clothes using direct solar energy through
21 the use of clotheslines, drying racks or other apparatus in any
22 residential setting if (1) nonpermanent alternatives, such as folding
23 racks, would provide the same drying service as permanent
24 installations of clotheslines and supporting structures; (2) functionally
25 equivalent alternate drying facilities, such as indoor drying rooms, are
26 available, provided said facilities do not rely on the use of electricity or
27 fossil fuels specifically for drying; or (3) such prohibitions incorporate
28 aesthetic considerations, provided such restrictions do not
29 substantially interfere with access to direct solar energy for drying
30 purposes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2008	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To facilitate energy conservation.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]