



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 612**

*January Session, 2013*

Senate Bill No. 1142

*Senate, April 24, 2013*

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. COLEMAN of the 2nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT PROMOTING THE USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AT CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) The Commissioner of  
2 Correction may conduct a pilot program at one or more correctional  
3 facilities to provide for the use of renewable sources of energy,  
4 including solar, wind, water and biomass sources, for use in space  
5 heating and cooling, domestic hot water and other applications. If the  
6 commissioner conducts such pilot program, the commissioner shall  
7 determine the appropriate correctional facility for such pilot program  
8 after considering the nature of the inmate population at each  
9 correctional facility, the topography of the area of the correctional  
10 facility, the impact on the municipality where the correctional facility  
11 is located and the impact on local wildlife. Any energy produced  
12 under the pilot program shall be allocated to the correctional facility,  
13 and any excess energy shall be allocated for the benefit of the  
14 municipality where the correctional facility is located.

15 (b) The commissioner shall conduct any such pilot program within  
16 available resources, and may apply for grants or financial assistance  
17 from any person, group of persons or corporation or from any agency  
18 of the state or of the United States.

19 (c) Not later than one year after any pilot program established  
20 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section is operational, the  
21 Commissioner of Correction shall submit a report on the pilot program  
22 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
23 cognizance of matters relating to energy, judiciary and appropriations.  
24 The report shall indicate the amount of energy produced under the  
25 pilot program, the amount of energy costs savings, an estimate of the  
26 energy benefit to the municipality where the correctional facility is  
27 located, and a summary of feedback received by the commissioner  
28 concerning the pilot program. The report shall be submitted in  
29 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 14 \$</b>	<b>FY 15 \$</b>
Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Savings	See Below	See Below

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in potential costs and savings to the state as it allows, but does not require, the Commissioner of Correction to create a pilot program for using renewable energy at correctional facilities. The agency is currently piloting the use of solar hot water systems at York Correctional Institute. To the extent that the agency is able to implement more renewable energy pilot programs it could result in potential costs related to infrastructure as well as energy cost savings. The following chart shows the utility expenditures for the Department of Correction.

<b>Utility</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Electricity	\$12.8 million
Water	\$2.9 million
Sewer	\$3.6 million
Natural Gas	\$5.2 million
Oil	\$1.9 million

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would

continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 1142*****AN ACT PROMOTING THE USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AT CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows the Department of Correction commissioner, within available resources, to conduct a pilot program to use renewable energy sources at one or more correctional facilities for space heating and cooling, domestic hot water, and other applications. Renewable energy sources include solar, wind, water, and biomass.

If the commissioner conducts the program, the bill requires him to consider specified factors when choosing the appropriate facility for the pilot. These factors include the (1) nature of the inmate population at each correctional facility, (2) topography of the facility's area, and (3) impact on the municipality and local wildlife.

Under the bill, any energy produced under the program must be allocated to the correctional facility. Excess energy must be allocated to benefit the municipality where the facility is located. The commissioner can apply for grants or other financial assistance from private sources or state or federal agencies.

If the commissioner conducts the program, he must report on it, within one year of it becoming operational, to the Appropriations, Energy, and Judiciary committees. The report must indicate the (1) amount of energy the program produced, (2) amount of energy cost savings, and (3) estimated energy benefit to the municipality. It must also summarize the response the commissioner received to the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 44    Nay 0    (04/12/2013)