



March 26, 2025

Brian Feldman
Chair
Senate Committee on Education, Energy,
and the Environment
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Subject: **FAVORABLE Position on HB1162 - Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, or Refrigeration Contractors - Equipment Sales**

Dear Chairman Feldman:

I am writing to express the support of the Association of Air Conditioning Professionals (AACCP) for HB1162. AACCP is a trade association for the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVACR) industry representing more than 76 companies in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. We urge the Committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1162.

HB1162 will close an important gap in existing law by prohibiting HVACR equipment distributors from selling equipment to unlicensed purchasers. Maryland's HVACR license requirements provide strong protection for consumers, but unlicensed contractors are still able to purchase equipment, which means that under-the-table installs are always a risk. Such installations can be dangerous, inefficient, and costly to residents.

Modern HVACR systems are extremely powerful, and HVACR licenses require years of experience and training. Depending on the specific equipment, improper installations risk causing fires, leakage of gas or dangerous refrigerants, as well as negative health impacts in the home. Badly installed systems can exacerbate pre-existing ventilation and mold issues, and run below peak efficiency, increasing energy demand and leading to higher monthly energy costs.

Furthermore, many HVACR projects are done on an emergency basis, meaning that homeowners just want their AC or heat back. We believe it is important to have sufficiently strong consumer protections in place, ensuring that all jobs are done correctly and safely.

HB1162 will make common sense changes to help better implement Maryland's existing license requirements, which will benefit contractor businesses, equipment distributors, and most importantly, homeowners.