

HB0222/273125/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 222

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**Delegate Stein**” and substitute “**Delegates Stein, Boyce, Holmes, Otto, Ruth, and Terrasa**”; in line 2, after “**Safety** –” insert “**Fuel Gas Piping Systems and**”; strike beginning with “**for**” in line 2 down through “**Prohibitions**” in line 3 and substitute “**– Prohibitions and Study**”; in line 4, after the second “of” insert “non–arc–resistant jacketed”; strike beginning with “that” in line 5 down through “used” in line 6 and substitute “; establishing a certain civil penalty for a person who uses certain tubing”; in lines 6 and 7, strike “to meet certain qualifications” and substitute “; requiring the Office of the State Fire Marshal to study and make recommendations related to preventing the fire hazards associated with commonly used fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing, in residential and commercial buildings”; and in line 7, after “to” insert “fuel gas piping systems, gas piping, and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 1, before “**CORRUGATED**” insert “**NON–ARC–RESISTANT JACKETED**”; strike beginning with “**THAT**” in line 1 down through “**TEST**” in line 6; in line 13, strike the opening bracket; in the same line, strike “**] ONLY**”; strike beginning with “**THAT**” in line 13 down through “**TEST**” in line 17; in line 18, strike the brackets; after line 27, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Office of the State Fire Marshal shall conduct a study and make recommendations related to preventing the fire hazards associated with commonly used fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing, in residential and commercial buildings.

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- (b) In conducting the study and making the recommendations, the Office shall:
- (1) study and compare the fire hazard risks of different types of fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing;
 - (2) study the likelihood of fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing, causing a fire in a residential or commercial building following a direct or indirect lightning strike;
 - (3) analyze the effectiveness of existing standards and requirements in the State related to fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing, and identify areas for improvement;
 - (4) analyze and identify the best practices for state and local legislative, regulatory, and building code standards for fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing;
 - (5) identify potential legislative or regulatory changes in the State to prevent or minimize the fire hazards associated with fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing;
 - (6) determine what industry standards or requirements are necessary to prevent or minimize the fire hazards associated with fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing;
 - (7) determine what standards or requirements are necessary, if any, to address aggravating factors that may reasonably contribute to the failure or malfunctioning of fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing, and create a fire hazard, such as improper installation or grounding;

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(8) assess the prevalence of non-arc-resistant jacketed corrugated stainless steel tubing in residential and commercial buildings and the fire hazards that this presents; and

(9) assess the feasibility of implementing the standards and requirements identified in this study.

(c) In carrying out the study, the Office shall consult with:

(1) the State Fire Prevention Commission;

(2) the Maryland Department of Labor;

(3) local government entities responsible for residential or commercial gas fitting inspections; and

(4) manufacturers of fuel gas piping systems and corrugated stainless steel tubing.

(d) On or before September 1, 2026, the Office shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee and the House Environment and Transportation Committee.”;

in line 28, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”; and in line 29, strike “October 1, 2027” and substitute “June 1, 2025”.