

HOUSE BILL 222

C2, E4
HB 503/24 – ENT

(PRE-FILED)

5r1479
CF SB 175

By: ~~Delegate Stein~~ **Delegates Stein, Boyce, Holmes, Otto, Ruth, and Terrasa**

Requested: October 29, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Fuel Gas Piping Systems and Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing**
3 **~~for Fuel Gas Piping Systems~~**
4 **~~– Requirements and Prohibitions~~ – Prohibitions and Study**

5 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the sale, offer for sale, transfer, or distribution of
6 non-arc-resistant jacketed corrugated stainless steel tubing that does not meet
7 certain qualifications; requiring certain tubing used; establishing a certain civil
8 penalty for a person who uses certain tubing in the construction of fuel gas piping
9 systems in certain buildings to meet certain qualifications; requiring the Office of
10 the State Fire Marshal to study and make recommendations related to preventing
11 the fire hazards associated with commonly used fuel gas piping systems, including
12 gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing, in residential and commercial
13 buildings; and generally relating to fuel gas piping systems, gas piping, and
14 corrugated stainless steel tubing.

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Business Regulation
17 Section 19–108
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2024 Replacement Volume)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
21 Article – Public Safety
22 Section 12–206

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
4 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

5 **Article – Business Regulation**

6 **19–108.**

7 (A) A PERSON MAY NOT SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, TRANSFER, OR DISTRIBUTE
8 ~~NON-ARC-RESISTANT JACKETED CORRUGATED STAINLESS STEEL TUBING THAT:~~

9 ~~(1) DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LC1027 STANDARD~~
10 ~~DESCRIBED IN THE MOST RECENT EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL AND GAS~~
11 ~~CODE ISSUED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL; OR~~

12 ~~(2) HAS NOT BEEN PROVEN TO WITHSTAND AT LEAST 36 COULOMBS~~
13 ~~OF ELECTRICAL ARCING CHARGE BY AN ELECTRICAL ARCING TEST.~~

14 (B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL
15 PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000.

16 **Article – Public Safety**

17 12–206.

18 (a) This section applies to any building that uses fuel gas piping systems not
19 subject to Title 49, Part 192 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

20 (b) ~~{Non-arc-resistant jacketed} ONLY corrugated stainless steel tubing THAT~~
21 ~~MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LC1027 STANDARD DESCRIBED IN THE MOST~~
22 ~~RECENT EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL AND GAS CODE ISSUED BY THE~~
23 ~~INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL OR HAS BEEN PROVEN TO WITHSTAND AT LEAST~~
24 ~~36 COULOMBS OF ELECTRICAL ARCING CHARGE BY AN ELECTRICAL ARCING TEST~~
25 may ~~{not}~~ be used in:

26 (1) the new construction of a customer-owned natural gas or liquefied
27 propane piping system in a building;

28 (2) a natural gas or liquefied propane piping system in a renovated
29 property if the renovation affects more than 50% of the total square footage of the property;
30 or

31 (3) a natural gas or liquefied propane piping system that requires the
32 addition of a new gas line to the gas piping system.

1 (C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL
2 PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000.

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

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

8 (b) In conducting the study and making the recommendations, the Office shall:

9 (1) study and compare the fire hazard risks of different types of fuel gas
10 piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing;

11 (2) study the likelihood of fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and
12 corrugated stainless steel tubing, causing a fire in a residential or commercial building
13 following a direct or indirect lightning strike;

14 (3) analyze the effectiveness of existing standards and requirements in the
15 State related to fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless steel
16 tubing, and identify areas for improvement;

17 (4) analyze and identify the best practices for state and local legislative,
18 regulatory, and building code standards for fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping
19 and corrugated stainless steel tubing;

20 (5) identify potential legislative or regulatory changes in the State to
21 prevent or minimize the fire hazards associated with fuel gas piping systems, including gas
22 piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing;

23 (6) determine what industry standards or requirements are necessary to
24 prevent or minimize the fire hazards associated with fuel gas piping systems, including gas
25 piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing;

26 (7) determine what standards or requirements are necessary, if any, to
27 address aggravating factors that may reasonably contribute to the failure or
28 malfunctioning of fuel gas piping systems, including gas piping and corrugated stainless
29 steel tubing, and create a fire hazard, such as improper installation or grounding;

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

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

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

2 (1) the State Fire Prevention Commission;

3 (2) the Maryland Department of Labor;

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

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

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

12 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 ~~October 1, 2027~~ June 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.