## SENATE BILL 175

C2, E4 5lr0730 SB 586/24 - EEE**CF HB 222** (PRE-FILED) By: Senators Lewis Young and Brooks Requested: August 30, 2024 Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025 Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: February 27, 2025 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning Public Safety - Fuel Gas Piping Systems and Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing for Fuel Gas Piping Systems - Requirements and Prohibitions - Prohibitions and Study FOR the purpose of prohibiting the sale, offer for sale, transfer, or distribution of nonconductive jacketed corrugated stainless steel tubing that does not meet certain qualifications; requiring certain tubing used; establishing a certain civil penalty for a person who uses certain tubing in the construction of fuel gas piping systems in certain buildings to meet certain qualifications; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, in collaboration with the State Fire Prevention Commission, the State Fire Marshal, and local inspectors, to conduct a study and make recommendations regarding corrugated stainless steel tubing and other fuel gas piping systems; and generally relating to fuel gas piping systems, gas piping, and corrugated stainless steel tubing. BY adding to Article – Business Regulation Section 19–108 Annotated Code of Maryland (2024 Replacement Volume) BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

## EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Article - Public Safety

Section 12–206

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



| 1<br>2                           | Annotated Code of Maryland<br>(2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)  |
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| 3<br>4                           | SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:  |
| 5                                | Article - Business Regulation  |
| 6                                | 19–108.  |
| 7<br>8                           | (A) A PERSON MAY NOT SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, TRANSFER, OR DISTRIBUTE NONCONDUCTIVE JACKETED CORRUGATED STAINLESS STEEL TUBING THAT:  |
| 9<br>10<br>11                    | (1) DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LC1027 STANDARD DESCRIBED IN THE MOST RECENT EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL AND GAS CODE ISSUED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL; OR   |
| 12<br>13                         | (2) HAS NOT BEEN PROVEN TO WITHSTAND AT LEAST 36 COULOMBS OF ELECTRICAL ARCING CHARGE BY AN ELECTRICAL ARCING TEST.  |
| 14<br>15                         | (B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000.  |
| 16                               | Article – Public Safety  |
| 17                               | 12–206.  |
| 18<br>19                         | (a) This section applies to any building that uses fuel gas piping systems not subject to Title 49, Part 192 of the Code of Federal Regulations.   |
| 20<br>21<br>22<br>23<br>24<br>25 | (b) [Non-arc-resistant jacketed] ONLY NONCONDUCTIVE JACKETED corrugated stainless steel tubing THAT-MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LC1027 STANDARD DESCRIBED IN THE MOST-RECENT EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL AND GAS CODE ISSUED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL OR HAS BEEN PROVEN TO WITHSTAND AT LEAST 36 COULOMBS OF ELECTRICAL ARCING CHARGE BY AN ELECTRICAL ARCING TEST may [not] be used in: |
| 26<br>27                         | (1) the new construction of a customer-owned natural gas or liquefied propane piping system in a building;   |
| 28<br>29<br>30                   | (2) a natural gas or liquefied propane piping system in a renovated property if the renovation affects more than 50% of the total square footage of the property or  |

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

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 Maryland Department of Labor, in collaboration with the State Fire Prevention Commission, the State Fire Marshal, and local inspectors, shall study the prevention of fire hazards associated with commonly used corrugated stainless steel tubing and other fuel gas piping systems in residential and commercial buildings.
- 8 (b) The Maryland Department of Labor shall:
- 9 <u>(1)</u> study the fire hazards created by different types of corrugated stainless 10 steel tubing in comparison to other fuel gas piping systems used in residential buildings;
- 11 (2) study the likelihood of corrugated stainless steel tubing or other fuel 12 gas piping systems causing a fire in a residential or commercial building following a direct 13 or indirect lightning strike;
- 14 (3) make recommendations regarding the standards and requirements
  15 necessary for corrugated stainless steel tubing and other fuel gas piping systems to prevent
  16 or minimize the risk of fire in residential or commercial buildings, including regulatory or
  17 legislative measures;
- 18 (4) <u>make recommendations regarding any standards and requirements</u> 19 <u>necessary to address aggravating factors that may reasonably contribute to the failure or</u> 20 <u>malfunctioning of corrugated stainless steel tubing or other fuel gas piping systems, such</u> 21 <u>as improper installation, maintenance, or grounding;</u>
- 22 (5) assess the availability of testing facilities to determine whether 23 corrugated stainless steel tubing and other fuel gas piping systems are able to withstand 24 lightning strikes or electrical arcing;
- 25 (6) assess the feasibility of implementing the standards and requirements 26 recommended under items (3) and (4) of this subsection;
- 27 (7) analyze the prevalence of nonconductive jacketed corrugated stainless 28 steel tubing in residential and commercial buildings and the fire hazard presented; and
- 29 (8) consult with the following individuals or entities regarding items (1) 30 through (7) of this subsection:
- 31 (i) local government entities that conduct gas inspections or 32 permitting;
- 33 (ii) the State Fire Marshal; and

| 1                       | (iii) any other necessary subject matter experts.   |
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| 2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6   | (c) (1) On or before December 1, 2025, the Maryland Department of Labor shall submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment and the House Environment and Transportation Committee. |
| 7<br>8<br>9<br>10<br>11 | (2) On or before September 30, 2026, the Maryland Department of Labor shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment and the House Environment and Transportation Committee.      |
| 12<br>13                | SECTION $\frac{2}{2}$ . AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2027 June 1, 2025.  |
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|                         | Approved:   |
|                         | Governor.   |
|                         | President of the Senate.  |
|                         | Speaker of the House of Delegates.  |