



January 30, 2020

Chairman Barve  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
Maryland House of Delegates  
Room 251, House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Letter of Information for HB 153 Public Safety - Maryland Building Performance Standards**

Dear Chairman Barve,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of information regarding HB 153.

ACC represents more than 170 companies engaged in all aspects of the \$797 billion business of chemistry. More than 96 percent of all manufactured goods are touched directly through the business of chemistry including life-saving medical devices, automobile air bags, energy efficient building and construction products such as plastic foam insulation and house wraps, solar cells, child safety seats, and products that help ensure drinking water is clean and safe. In Maryland, the business of chemistry provides more than 11,500 direct jobs, generating \$218 million in state and local taxes, and shipping \$1.9 billion in products around the world.

In order to make the most of our nation's energy resources, ACC urges policymakers to prioritize energy efficiency in the nation's energy portfolio. These efforts include adoption of strong building energy efficiency codes at the state level as most recently incorporated in the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and pending in the 2021 IECC.

We have worked with the Maryland Department of Labor on HB 153 and understand that an amendment will be offered to HB 153 to alter the time within which the Maryland Department of Labor is required to adopt each subsequent version of the Maryland Building Performance Standards. This amendment will provide for a 24 month period after publication and before adoption. While we do not support extending code adoption timelines, we understand the Department of Labor's position and believe this amendment to be reasonable. ACC will not oppose the amended HB 153. Maryland has been a leader in building energy efficiency and we look forward to helping the Department maintain that leadership.



Please do not hesitate to contact me either at 202-249-6223 or via email at [josh\\_young@americanchemistry.com](mailto:josh_young@americanchemistry.com). ACC, its member companies and our employees thank you in advance for considering our views.

Sincerely,

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CC: Nick Manis, Managing Partner, Manis Canning & Associates

