

Mid Atlantic Pipe Trades Association



Maryland House of Delegate

TO: Delegate Anne Healey, Chair, and Members of the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
FROM: Jason Ascher, Political Director – Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association

Support HJ 7 – 2026 FIFA World Cup – Protection of Human Rights

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association and its over seven thousand members from United Association Locals across the state, I ask that you SUPPORT HJ 7.

The 2026 FIFA World Cup is a tremendous opportunity for the United States and especially for the locations that will host games and training facilities. The World Cup is the largest sporting event in the world, with host cities potentially getting \$300-\$500 million in economic activity during the games. With the greater Baltimore area and Washington, DC (FedEx Field and the University of Maryland) being on the list of finalists to potentially host games it is important we put our best foot forward and show we are ready for this big stage.

It is important to ensure Maryland does not just have the infrastructure and facilities, but that it is protecting human and workers' rights. Because of problems in during past games FIFA 2026 has set in its "Proposal for a United Human Rights Strategy." It is designed to ensure that workers are treated fairly and with respect. It is important that as bids are considered for the games that Maryland show it is meeting or exceeding the standards set in this document. Passing HJ 7 will affirm Maryland's commitment to meet these standard.

For the reasons listed above, I ask that you SUPPORT HJ 7 with a favorable report.

Sincerely,
Jason Ascher
Political Director
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