



# Plumbers Local Union No. 5

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada, AFL-CIO

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## TESTIMONY

TERREIA "T" SMALLS, UA PLUMBERS AND GASFITTERS LOCAL 5

HB 365, PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION – FOSSIL FUEL–BASED ENERGY SYSTEM COSTS – PROHIBITION (GREEN SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION ACT OF 2022)

UNFAVORABLE

Dear Members of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

On behalf of UA Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 5, I write in strong opposition to HB365, which is an affront to the working women and men of our union, the hundreds of working apprentices, some of whom have found re-entry second chances through our outstanding training programming, and the hundreds of retirees who have built world-class infrastructure throughout the State of Maryland for 100 years.

In addition, this legislation tests the trust and partnership that our union has built with members of the legislature, forged over many years, and which has been particularly strengthened throughout this 4-year legislative cycle. Specifically, this legislation is an assault on the Built to Learn Act of 2020, of which our union participated in crafting, and which represents enormous progress in school construction reform, addressing disparities across the state.

Lastly, this legislation is a dangerous rebuke of the role and authority of the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC), the legislature, and puts at risks the state's bond ratings that are critical for all state construction, not only school construction and the Built to Learn Act of 2020.

We urge the committees for an unfavorable committee report.

Sincerely,

Terriea L. Smalls  
Business Manager/Financial  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Plumbers Local Union No. 5