



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

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2021-2022 ASHRAE President

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February 22, 2022

The Honorable Maggie L. McIntosh, Chair
The Honorable Mark Chang, Vice Chair
Maryland House of Delegates
Appropriations Committee
6 Bladen Street, Room 121
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 806

Dear Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Chang, and Committee Members:

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society advancing human well-being through sustainable technology for the built environment. The Society and its more than 51,000 members, including over 1,100 in Maryland, focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.

We are writing to you regarding House Bill 806, "*Building Standards and Emissions Reductions – High Performance, State, and Local Government Buildings, State Operations, and Eligible Projects*". We appreciate the bill's focus on high-performance building standards. However, we also suggest that the most recent 2021 edition of the **International Green Construction Code (IgCC)** be listed as a method of meeting the requirements for high-performance school and public safety buildings in Section 3-602.1 (a) (iii) of the bill, which clarifies the definition of a high-performance building.

The 2021 International Green Construction Code is powered by ANSI/ASHRAE/ICC/USGBC/IES Standard 189.1-2020, Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings Except Low Rise Residential Buildings. The 2021 IgCC provides a comprehensive solution for high performance buildings based on a consensus-based standard that includes prescriptive and performance-related provisions for energy use, natural resources use, site sustainability, water use efficiency, and indoor environmental quality. The IgCC is intended to help streamline code development and adoption, and improve building industry standardization. It is a unified code that emphasizes adoption, ease of use and enforcement for building projects.

Again, we appreciate the bill's focus on high-performance buildings, and hope that your committee will consider further improving the bill by naming the latest edition of the International Green Construction Code as a method for meeting the requirements of Section 3-602.1 (a) (iii). If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff email GovAffairs@ashrae.org. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter and for working to ensure the health and well-being of building occupants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mick Schwedler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael CA (Mick) Schwedler, P.E., Fellow ASHRAE, LEED AP
2021-22 ASHRAE President

cc: The Honorable Dana Stein
The Honorable Kumar Barve