



Maryland House of Delegates Environment and Transportation Committee

Chair: Kumar P. Barve

Vice Chair: Dana Stein

Electrical Workers

Insulators

Boilermakers

United Association

Plumbers & Gas Fitters

Sprinkler Fitters

Steam Fitters

Roofers

Cement Masons

Teamsters

Laborers

Bricklayers

Ironworkers

Sheet Metal Workers

Elevator Constructors

Painters

Operating Engineers

Carpenters

House Bill 1052 Public Safety Gas Piping Systems – Construction Requirements (Flynn and Laird Act)

Position: **Oppose**

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council opposes HB 1052.

There are three Plumbing and Gas code jurisdictions in MD that provide licensing and enforcement. They are the MD State Plumbing Board; Baltimore County and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. The fuel gas piping materials approved for use and installed per the gas codes in these jurisdictions are safe for service for fuel gas piping in residential and commercial buildings and have passed inspection when installed and tested by a qualified and licensed Journey person (or registered Apprentice) under the direction of a licensed Master Plumber – Gasfitter. The bill as written does not indicate the gas they are trying to regulate. Natural gas, liquid propane, medical gas, compressed air or nitrous oxide. If there is a piping material that has proved to be unsafe it can be banned similar to what was done when lead water service pipes were banned for the safety and health of the public. It must be specific to the problem to be rectified. Black iron pipe shall be a minimum of schedule 40 thickness with malleable iron fittings. Only CSST Arc resistant jacketed stainless steel tubing eliminates the copper pipe used for medical gas in the ICU and NICU wards of hospitals. Medical gas codes are regulated through the National Fire Protection Association NFPA 99. Nitrous oxide in the dentists office, LP tanks and compressed air would all be CSST or black iron pipe of undetermined thickness. The bill effectively excludes all other materials listed in section 403 (IFGS) Piping materials of the International Fuel Gas Codes such as metallic, copper, copper alloy, aluminum, steel piping and tubing and corrugated stainless tubing without the arc resistant jacket. Standard CSST less the arc resistant jacket are safe as long as they are properly bonded according to section 310 (IFGS) Electrical bonding of the International Fuel Gas and International Electrical Codes. Thank you.

We ask the committee for an unfavorable vote

Respectfully,

Jeffry Guido

Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council

Value on Display... Everyday.



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