



House Environment and Transportation Committee

To: Delegate Barve, Chair; Delegate Stein, Vice-Chair; and Members of the Committee.

From: Jason Ascher, Political Director, Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association – United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters

**OPPOSE HB 1052 – Public Safety – Gas Piping Systems – Construction
Requirements (Flynn and Laird Act)**

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association, our United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters Locals, and our approximately 10,000 members across Maryland, I ask you to **OPPOSE HB 1052**.

We find two issues with this legislation. First, though years of experience, the Maryland Plumbing & Gas code and the WSSC Plumbing & Gas Regulation have approved various fuel gas piping materials as safe for use in residential and commercial construction. These organizations are the experts in the field, and their experience helps keep the public safe. The key is who installs and tests the piping. Maryland state law requires a licensed Journeyman or Apprentice Plumber/Gasfitter overseen by a licensed Master Plumber/Gasfitter. These men and women are trained and certified to install approved gas pipes of all kinds. Second, this legislation is too broad and refers to gas systems without being specific to what type of gas needs to be regulated.

For these reasons, I ask you to **OPPOSE HB 1052**.

Sincerely,

Jason Ascher
Political Director
Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association