



Maryland State Chapter International Fire Marshal's Association

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February 12, 2024

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair
Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB0586-Public Safety-Corrugated Stainless-Steel Tubing for Fuel Gas Piping Systems-
Requirements and Prohibitions

The Maryland State Chapter of the International Fire Marshals Association is made up of representatives from Fire Marshal Offices across the State of Maryland. We work in collaboration with the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office to advocate for strong and effective fire prevention and life safety measures to protect the citizens of the State of Maryland.

We are writing you today to submit our support for SB0586. Though legislation was passed last year in our state requiring Corrugated Stainless-Steel Gas Tubing where newly installed to be of Arc-Resistant Jacketed Tubing, tested and listed in accordance with ICC-ES-LC1027, however, CSST not meeting this standard is still being sold, transferred, and distributed within the State of Maryland.

This proposed bill would ensure that any CSST sold, transferred, or distributed within the state to meet the requirements of ICC-ES-LC027 and that any person who violates this proposed bill would be subject to a civil penalty not exceeding \$1,000.

CSST not meeting the requirements of ICC-ES-LC027 has shown to be a danger to both firefighters and residents due to its propensity to leak if affected by lightning strikes. In recent years we have seen two firefighter deaths here in the state of Maryland directly attributable to CSST. We know of many other fires where this issue has occurred, sometimes with devastating damage. These proposed requirements will greatly assist us in alleviating the dangers we currently face in our duties.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation and we respectfully ask the Environment and Transportation Committee for a favorable report for SB0586.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Custer

Michael (Scott) Custer
President
Maryland State Chapter, International Fire Marshals Association