

January 30, 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
EEE Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SUPPORT SB263 - Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors – License Restoration

Dear Chair Feldman:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding SB263 Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors – License Restoration. MBIA **Supports** the Act in its current version.

Senate Bill 362 would extend from 90 days to 4 years the time period during which an individual who has held a heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and refrigeration contractor license may apply for license restoration after expiration.

The industry is in support of any legislation that would increase or aid in increasing the number of trade jobs in the state of Maryland. Of the over 400,000 HVAC contractors in the United States, just 7,000 work in Maryland and that number is expected to grow over the next ten years but not at a rate to keep up with economic growth and construction in the state.

While, it is critical for the state to attract new heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and refrigeration contractors it also as so to retain those who currently hold these licenses. The extension timeline proposed in SB263 will allow sufficient time for current heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and refrigeration contractors whose licenses are about to expire or are going to, sufficient time to submit a renewal application.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or lgraf@marylandbuilders.org.

cc: Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee