



**PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS**

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Founded 1889

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UA – PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 486

TESTIMONY OF CHRIS ANDERSON, BUSINESS AGENT

PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 486

BEFORE THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL 120 – UNFAVORABLE

Chair Korman and Members of the Committee:

UA Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 486 respectfully opposes House Bill 120. The bill eliminates a critical and growing source of skilled mechanical construction work in Maryland by prohibiting new data center construction and preventing State and local governments from approving otherwise lawful projects.

Data centers are among the most technically complex facilities constructed today, requiring advanced piping systems, cooling infrastructure, fire-suppression interfaces, and ongoing mechanical service. These projects sustain registered apprenticeship programs and provide long-term career pathways for Maryland workers.

Local 486 supports responsible siting and environmental oversight. However, an outright prohibition removes local discretion and prevents jurisdictions from negotiating workforce standards, community benefits, and infrastructure improvements tied to these projects.

For these reasons, UA Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 486 urges an unfavorable report on House Bill 120.

Sincerely,

Chris Anderson

Business Agent

Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 486