



PLUMBERS LOCAL UNION NO. 5

UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, AFL-CIO

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TESTIMONY OF TERRIEA "T" SMALLS
BUSINESS MANAGER / FST, PLUMBERS & GASFITTERS LOCAL 5
BEFORE THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
HOUSE BILL 120 – UNFAVORABLE

Chair Korman and Members of the Committee:

UA Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 5 respectfully opposes House Bill 120. The bill imposes a blanket prohibition on the construction of new data centers in Maryland and prohibits State and local governments from approving otherwise lawful projects, regardless of location, power source, or workforce standards.

Data centers represent sustained demand for licensed plumbers and gasfitters in construction, commissioning, and long-term operations and maintenance. These projects generate family-supporting union jobs, apprenticeship opportunities, and significant State and local tax revenue. A categorical moratorium deprives Maryland workers of these opportunities while competing states actively recruit this investment.

Local 5 supports responsible siting, environmental review, and energy-reliability requirements. However, an outright prohibition eliminates local discretion and prevents jurisdictions from negotiating workforce standards, community benefits, or infrastructure improvements.

For these reasons, UA Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 5 urges an unfavorable report on House Bill 120.

Sincerely,

Terriea "T" Smalls
Business Manager / FST
Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 5

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