

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2024 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

House Bill 503 (Delegates Stein and Holmes)  
Environment and Transportation

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**Public Safety - Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing for Fuel Gas Piping Systems -  
Requirements and Prohibitions**

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This bill requires that, for any building that uses fuel gas piping systems not subject to specified federal regulations, only corrugated stainless steel tubing that meets the requirements of the LC1027 standard described in the most recent edition of the International Fuel and Gas Code (IFGC) issued by the International Code Council (ICC) may be used in (1) the new construction of a customer-owned natural gas or liquefied propane piping system in a building; (2) a natural gas or liquefied propane piping system in a renovated property, under specified conditions; or (3) a natural gas or liquefied propane piping system that requires the addition of a new gas line to the piping system. The bill also prohibits a person from selling, offering for sale, transferring, or distributing corrugated stainless steel tubing that does not meet the requirements of the LC1027 standard, as specified. A person who violates the bill is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect State finances. However, the bill may not be able to be implemented as drafted because the standard specified by the bill does not exist in any edition of the IFGC.

**Local Effect:** None. Even if the bill can be implemented, any enforcement activities by local governments can be incorporated into existing building inspections using existing budgeted resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

### Current Law:

#### *Natural Gas and Liquefied Propane Piping Systems in Construction*

Chapter 140 of 2022 established that, for any building using fuel gas piping systems not subject to Title 49, Part 192 of the Code of Federal Regulations, non-arc-resistant jacketed corrugated stainless steel tubing may not be used in (1) the new construction of a customer-owned natural gas or liquefied propane piping system in a building; (2) a natural gas or liquefied propane piping system in a renovated property if the renovation affects more than 50% of the total square footage of the property; or (3) a natural gas or liquefied propane piping system that requires the addition of a new gas line to the gas piping system.

#### *Regulation of Gas Lines – Generally*

The Board of Plumbers within the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) incorporates by reference the 2018 IFGC in regulation. Title 49, Part 192 of the Code of Federal Regulations specifies the minimum federal safety standards for gas pipeline facilities and the transportation of natural and other gas by pipeline. Both the IFGC and federal regulations include standards for the installation and maintenance of gas piping systems.

**Additional Comments:** MDL and the State Fire Marshal advise that the LC1027 standard specified under the bill does not exist in any edition of the IFGC. MDL further advises that the specified LC1027 standard is referenced under the ICC Evaluation Service, which provides technical evaluations of building products, components, methods, and materials.

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## Additional Information

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** SB 586 (Senator Brooks, *et al.*) - Education, Energy, and the Environment.

**Information Source(s):** Harford and Montgomery counties; Maryland Association of Counties; Maryland Municipal League; Baltimore City Community College; University System of Maryland; Morgan State University; Interagency Commission on School Construction; Department of General Services; Maryland Department of Labor;

Department of State Police; Maryland Department of Transportation; Public Service Commission; International Code Council; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 8, 2024  
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