



MARYLAND BUILDING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

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HB 303-Support

Public Safety - Maryland Swimming Pool and Spa Standards - Adoption Environment and Transportation Committee

January 27, 2022

Dear Chair Barve, and Members of the Committee,

The Board of Directors, Maryland Building Officials Association, is happy to provide testimony in favor of HB 303, adopting the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) for design and construction of public, semi-public, and private pools and spas. MBOA provides this letter of support for adoption of the bills as written which allows for local jurisdictions to amend with the caveat that the current proposed language is not modified nor amended.

Adding the ISPSC next to the Maryland Building Performance Standards provides a safe and comprehensive code for design and construction of swimming pools and spas that correlates with the other building safety codes adopted and enforced in Maryland. HB 303 provides a consistent foundation of requirements across the state that reduces the patchwork of regulations governing the design and construction of pools and spas. Importantly, the ISPSC is written in a format that is well understood by Maryland's design, builder, and code enforcement communities which leads to more consistent application and enforcement of its safety provisions.

The Maryland Building Officials Association, established over 50 years ago, is a membership association of approximately 450 individuals dedicated to building, plumbing, mechanical, energy efficiency, and fire protection. As charter members of the International Code Council, our members, along with construction industry professionals, develop the codes and standards, including the ISPSC, used to protect the public and keep them safe in the buildings where they eat, sleep, work, learn, play, and worship. The State of Maryland has a long history of adopting national model codes and standards and many local representatives have been very active in the development of the family of International Codes and Standards.

MBOA appreciates the Committee's consideration of HB 303 and urges a favorable recommendation.

Sincerely,

Frank G Quillen
President