



HB503: Public Safety – Corrugated Stainless-Steel Tubing for Fuel Gas Piping Systems – Requirements and Prohibitions.

Introduced by Delegates Stein and Holmes

OPPOSE

- HB503 will require that only corrugated stainless steel tubing that meets the LC-1027 standard may be used in new construction or renovated properties.
- The issue is LC-1027 is not a building code standard but a testing criterion that was created for one particular product, FlashShield manufactured by Gastite.
- FlashShield is patented and is the only product in the market that meets the LC-1027 criteria.
- Passage of HB503 will create a monopoly for one product.
- Recognized Atmospheric Physicist Michael Stringfellow, who is an expert in lightening and grounding, stated in his 2017 report, *Critical Review of LC-1027 Listing Criteria for Multi-Layer Conductive, Jacketed Corrugated Stainless-Steel Tubing*, “the LC-1027 listing appears to have chosen test criteria to suit the particular product for which it was developed.”
- Since 2014, the LC-1027 testing criteria has been discussed and considered in communities and legislatures across the country. To date, no jurisdiction has the LC-1027 criteria in their Code.

Legislative History

- During the 2022 MGA Session, HB1052 was adopted and signed into law that states “non-arc resistant jacketed corrugated stainless-steel tubing may not be used” in new construction or renovated property.
- The Senate Finance Committee considered an amendment to add LC-1027 and decided not to include it.
- The 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report requested a report from the Public Service Commission concerning the potential creation of a consumer website to educate the public about potential safety risks of improperly installed yellow CSST as well as consumer protections such as replacement, signage to alert first responders of its presence, and/or proper grounding or bonding of the piping.
- The report noted that since 2006, all manufacturers’ instructions have specified direct bonding and grounding of yellow corrugated stainless steel tubing in new construction.
- As noted in the Fiscal and Policy Note, the Department of Labor and the State Fire Marshal advise that the LC-1027 standard specified under the bill (HB503) does not exist in any edition of the International Fuel and Gas Code.