

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING THE VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMS PERSONNEL OF MARYLAND.



Robert P. Phillips

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HB 503: Public Safety - Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing for Fuel Gas Piping Systems - Requirements and Prohibitions

My name is Robert Phillips, I am the Legislative Committee Chair for the Maryland State Firefighters Association (MSFA). The MSFA represents the 25,000 plus volunteer Fire/EMS and Rescue first responders across the state.

I wish to present testimony in favor of House Bill 503: Public Safety - Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing for Fuel Gas Piping Systems - Requirements and Prohibitions

The MSFA fully supports the adoption of this bill. We have seen first hand the effects of the original Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) when it is affected by a large electric voltage discharge. The fire service of Maryland has seen the deaths of two firefighter in fuel fed fires from the perforation of original CSST. An electrical arc can perforate the original CSST and cause a gas leak which will add fuel to a fire. Arc-resistant CSST (AR-CSST) has gone through several upgrades to its insulation that would better protect it from a perforation due to an electrical arc. This bill also mandates that the sale of non-AR-CSST will be illegal. This will stop the sale of any stock that is still available so that going forward we are doing all we can do to protect first responders and the public we serve.

I thank the committee for their time and attention to this important bill and ask that you vote favorable on House Bill 503.

I will now be glad to answer any questions, or my contact information is listed above and welcome any further inquiries you might have.

