



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

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Michael CA Schwedler, PE
2021-2022 ASHRAE President

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February 9, 2022

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
The Honorable Alonzo T. Washington, Vice Chair
Maryland House of Delegates
Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 131
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Letter Sent Via Email to: AA_WAM@mlis.state.md.us

RE: House Bill 405

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington, and Committee Members:

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society advancing human well-being through sustainable technology for the built environment. The Society and its more than 51,000 members, including over 1,100 in Maryland, focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.

We are writing to you regarding House Bill 405, the "*Mechanical Insulation Installation Tax Credit*." We appreciate the inclusion of ASHRAE's Standard 90.1-2007, [Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings](#), in the requirements for the proposed tax credit for mechanical insulation installation. However, we emphasize that the 2007 edition of Standard 90.1 referenced in the bill text is no longer the latest edition of the standard. There have been several editions after 2007 that include important updates to the standard, the latest of which is edition 90.1-2019.

ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1, [Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings](#), has been the benchmark for commercial building energy codes in the United States and a key basis for codes and standards around the world for more than 35 years. It is an indispensable reference for engineers and other professionals involved in design of buildings and building systems. The 2019 edition of Standard 90.1 includes significant updates and clarifications to previous editions. These include changes to the requirements for administration and enforcement, the building envelope, the lighting, mechanical, and energy cost budget sections, and the

performance rating method. It is critical that this latest edition, which includes the best information available, is referenced in the bill. Further, a building built to ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2019 will result in a 30% reduction in energy use compared with a standard from a decade ago.

Again, we appreciate the inclusion of ASHRAE Standard 90.1 in this bill and hope your committee will consider further improving the bill by updating the reference to Standard 90.1 from the 2007 edition to the latest 2019 edition. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff email GovAffairs@ashrae.org. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter and for working to ensure the health and well-being of building occupants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mick Schwedler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael CA (Mick) Schwedler, P.E., Fellow ASHRAE, LEED AP
2021-22 ASHRAE President

cc: Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
The Honorable Mary Lehman