



October 19, 2022

The Honorable Gene Yaw, Chair Senate
Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
362 Main Capitol
Senate Box 203023
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3023
gyaw@pasen.gov

The Honorable Carolyn T. Comitta, Minority Chair
Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee
457 Main Capitol
Senate Box 203019
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3019
carolyn@carolyncomitta.com

Dear Senators Yaw and Comitta,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1125, *An Act amending Titles 27 (Environmental Resources) and 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for Legionnaires' disease risk management in public water systems; establishing the Legionnaires' Disease Drinking Water Risk Management Restricted Account; and providing for Legionnaires' disease prevention.* On behalf of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) and as a resident of Pennsylvania, I want to express our strong support for this legislation which I understand will be heard before the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee this week.

IAPMO, founded in 1926, has been protecting the public's health and safety for almost a century by working in concert with government and industry to implement comprehensive plumbing and mechanical systems around the world. One of IAPMO's business units is ASSE International. ASSE's mission is 'to promote public awareness about the importance of safe and correct plumbing and mechanical systems...' ASSE has been writing standards for over one hundred years, certifying products for over fifty years and writing professional qualifications for over twenty-five years.

From this background, the industry approached ASSE with the need for professional qualifications for members of water management teams, trades workers and contractors dealing with the problems associated with *Legionella*. ASSE created the ASSE/IAPMO/ANSI Series 12000: *Professional Qualifications Standard for Infection Control Risk Assessment for All Buildings* to help protect building occupants from potential exposure to *Legionella*. The Standards require training and a written exam before a person can be certified as a qualified individual.

ASHRAE Standard 188, which is referenced in your bill, provides detailed plumbing design guidance for new construction and risk management requirements for all building water systems. The complimentary ASSE/IAPMO/ANSI Series 12000 Standards provide guidance on

water quality to trades people, contractors and members of building water management teams to assess risks like *Legionella* and defines the qualifications of the individuals who implement the requirements of ASHRAE 188. It is important to note that ANSI, the American National Standard Institute, is a third-party oversight organization that reviews standard writing organizations' processes to ensure that due process was met.

I would encourage you to include the ASSE Series 12000 Standards in this legislation, particularly ASSE/IAPMO/ANSI Standard 12080, *Professional Qualifications Standard for Legionella Water Safety and Management Personnel*, to help assure that the people who manage and work within the water systems are qualified and to allow for better implementation of the requirements of ASHRAE 188. Together, these two standards will help protect the people of Pennsylvania from this dangerous and deadly disease. You may obtain information about this and other Standards by going to www.asse-plumbing.org.

I am happy to answer any questions you might have or to provide more detailed information on this or any of our Codes and Standards. We could also schedule an IAPMO representative to provide public testimony when the bill is heard in Committee.

Sincerely yours,



Sean Cleary
Vice President of Industry Programs and BPI Operations

cc: The Honorable Joe Pittman,
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The Honorable Wayne Fontana
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