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Farooq Mehboob
2022-2023 ASHRAE President

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March 8, 2023

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
Maryland House of Representatives
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Barve:

I am writing on behalf of ASHRAE regarding House Bill 900, “*Indoor Air Quality in Public Buildings*”. ASHRAE, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1894, is a professional and technical society that focuses on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. ASHRAE has over 53,000 members, including over 1,000 in Maryland. **We support the bill’s inclusion of ASHRAE Standard 62.1 and Standard 55.**

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2022, *Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality*, specifies minimum ventilation rates and other measures intended to provide indoor air quality that is acceptable to human occupants and minimizes adverse health effects, such as breathing difficulties, due to poor indoor air quality (IAQ). We recommend the legislation reference the most recent, up-to-date edition of Standard 62.1, which is currently the 2022 edition. This latest edition includes updates to the procedures and methods for meeting minimum ventilation and indoor air quality requirements.

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 55-2020, *Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy*, specifies the comprehensive analytical methods to determine thermal environmental conditions (such as temperature, humidity, air speed, and radiant effects) in buildings and other spaces that will be acceptable to a significant proportion of the occupants. It contains requirements for the design of an occupied space or building, as well as for the measurement and evaluation of existing thermal environments. The latest edition of the standard, the 2020 edition, includes new addenda with a focus on application of the standard and use of clear, enforceable language.

Again, thank you for your consideration of HB 900, including ASHRAE Standards 62.1 and 55. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or have your staff contact GovAffairs@ashrae.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Mehboob'.

Farooq Mehboob
2022-2023 ASHRAE President