



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

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Ginger Scoggins
2023-2024 ASHRAE President

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May 6, 2024

The Honorable M. Teresa Ruiz
Majority Leader
166 Bloomfield Avenue
Newark, NJ 07104

Sent via email to: senruiz@njleg.org

Re: Senate Bill 2188

Dear Majority Leader Ruiz:

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 53,000 members, including over 800 in New Jersey, 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 Senate Bill 2188, "*An Act Concerning Legionnaires' Disease.*" We appreciate the inclusion of ASHRAE's Standard 188-2018, *Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems*, in the proposed requirements for water management programs for certain buildings. Managing water systems to minimize the risk of contamination from Legionella is essential. However, we recommend updating the bill to reference the latest edition of ASHRAE Standard 188, which is the 2021 edition.

We commend you for addressing this important topic, and we strongly advise that the requirements contained in this bill are consistent with the totality of ASHRAE Standard 188, as taking only certain portions from it, or adding to it, could impair its effectiveness and potentially put building occupants at risk. ASHRAE Standard 188 is written to be usable and implemented by a broad range of building owners without using or requiring compliance, training, or certification in any hazard analysis, risk assessment, or risk management methodologies. They contain extensive input from industry, academia, and healthcare and from city, state, and national public health departments and regulatory authorities. As a society with over 125 years of experience and representing some of the sharpest minds in the industry, we respectfully urge you to rely on the technical materials prepared by ASHRAE. The existing proposal adds requirements well beyond and in conflict with those in ASHRAE Standard 188. One example is a provision in your

legislation that mandates sampling and testing, as that is only one of the possible aspects of a comprehensive water management plan and is not always an effective nor economical strategy in all building applications or situations.

Again, we appreciate the inclusion of ASHRAE Standard 188-2018 in this bill and hope you will consider further improving the bill by referencing the latest (2021) edition of the standard, and by incorporating the additional ASHRAE recommendations as described above. 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 dark ink, appearing to read 'Ginger Scoggins', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ginger Scoggins
ASHRAE President