October 15, 2019

Commissioner Kathleen Toomey
Georgia Department of Public Health
2 Peachtree Street, NW, 15th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Commissioner Toomey:

ASHRAE, a non-profit technical society headquartered in Atlanta, would like to applaud the Georgia Department of Public Health for convening a Legionella Prevention Working Group. Bringing together key stakeholders to discuss efforts to amend the Georgia code, or to determine other options to implement legionella prevention in the state is critical to the public health and safety of Georgia’s built environment.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society of over 57,000 members, including 1,236 in Georgia, committed to shaping tomorrow’s built environment today. We are pleased that Georgia is considering incorporation of ASHRAE Standard 188, Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems, in its code. We also understand that you have some questions about whether Standard 188 was amendable to code enforcement, among other issues. ASHRAE would be happy to provide technical assistance on Standard 188 and answer any questions that you might have on the use of the Standard as a risk reduction measure. Additionally, ASHRAE has also begun development of a new Standard 514, Minimizing Risk of Disease and Injury Associated with Building Water Systems, that will provide minimum requirements to reduce the risk of other waterborne pathogens and injuries related to the building water system.

As the Legionella Prevention Working Group moves forward, ASHRAE would be pleased to provide any assistance that can help reduce the risks of Legionella, including any technical details or questions related to building standards, codes, and policies and training to protect public health. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact us, or have your staff contact GovAffairs@ashrae.org. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Darryl Boyce, PE, FASHRAE