PLUMBERS AND GASFITTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 1

OF THE



UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA NEW YORK CITY

PAUL O'CONNOR

Business Manager

FREDDY DELLIGATTI

Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Dear Council Member:

On behalf of Plumbers Local Union No. 1's more than 6,000 members, I am writing today to urge passage of Int. 429-A at Thursday's hearing of the Committee on Housing and Buildings (September 25, 2025, 11:00 am).

As you know, the purpose of this commonsense bill is to encourage compliance with existing law requiring Licensed Master Plumbers to perform all plumbing work, including the installation, hook ups, and replacement of domestic gas appliances. If passed, 429-A will make it simpler, cheaper, and safer to install gas appliances, by reclassifying this type of work as "ordinary plumbing," which eliminates the need for a permit and a DOB inspection and the associated costs. Instead, a Licensed Master Plumber can self-certify the work.

Unfortunately, this well-advised bill has been subject to a campaign of misinformation and false rumors at the hands of the New York Apartment Association (NYAA). So, for the sake of clarity, the NYAA's assertion that 429-A imposes a new requirement that plumbers install gas stoves, is blatantly false. Indeed, existing law requires that Licensed Master Plumbers perform all plumbing work including the installation of gas appliances like stoves.

This is a brazen effort by the NYAA to interpret the law in a self-serving manner to delicense this work so that it can be performed legally by building superintendents. In fact, videos from their misinformation campaign seem to indicate that their superintendents already routinely perform this work illegally, opening buildings and residents to potential gas hazards or poisoning from improperly connected appliances. Insurance does not cover illegals acts and owners could open themselves up to criminal liability.

429-A is good bill which was developed over many months and years with the intention of serving the public good. I would respectfully ask that you keep that in mind when the bill comes up for a vote and not be distracted by a self-dealing group trafficking in lies and misinformation.

Sincerely,

Paul O'Connor
Business Manager
UA Plumbers Local 1

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