

HOUSE No. 309

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Lenny Mirra

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to updating the plumbing code in order to accommodate agricultural uses.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Lenny Mirra</i> | <i>2nd Essex</i> |
| <i>Norman J. Orrall</i> | <i>12th Bristol</i> |
| <i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i> | <i>8th Bristol</i> |
| <i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i> | <i>8th Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Susan Williams Gifford</i> | <i>2nd Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Steven S. Howitt</i> | <i>4th Bristol</i> |
| <i>Mathew J. Muratore</i> | <i>1st Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Joseph D. McKenna</i> | <i>18th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Hannah Kane</i> | <i>11th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i> | <i>5th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Bruce E. Tarr</i> | <i>First Essex and Middlesex</i> |

HOUSE No. 309

By Mr. Mirra of West Newbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 309) of Lenny Mirra and others that the Division of Professional Licensure be directed to amend the Uniform State Plumbing Code and associated regulations to include a category of agricultural buildings and operations. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 181 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**
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An Act relative to updating the plumbing code in order to accommodate agricultural uses.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the board of
2 examiners of plumbers and gas fitters is authorized to amend the Uniform State Plumbing Code,
3 under 248 CMR 10.00, and associated regulations to include a category of agricultural buildings
4 and operations, as defined by section 1A of chapter 128, separate from regulations governing
5 residential and commercial buildings; provided, however, that such amendments shall follow the
6 recommendations provided by the advisory committee formed pursuant to subsection (b) and are
7 approved by the board of examiners of plumbers and gas fitters.

8 (b) The division shall assemble an advisory committee, consisting of: the chair of the
9 board of state examiners of plumbers and gas fitters, or his designee, who shall co-chair the

10 advisory committee; the commissioner of the department of agricultural resources, or his
11 designee, who shall co-chair the advisory committee; the commissioner of the department of
12 public health, or his designee; one member to be appointed by the division of professional
13 licensure, who shall be a plumbing inspector who works for a municipality; one member
14 appointed by the division, whom shall be a public member, who has no financial or otherwise
15 profitable interest in the plumbing industry, and one member appointed by the commissioner of
16 the department of agricultural resources, whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts
17 Farm Bureau Federation and the Agriculture community. The advisory committee shall make
18 recommendations to the board for amendments to the Uniform State Plumbing Code, and
19 associated regulations pursuant to subsection (a). Such recommendations shall seek to ensure the
20 safety and efficacy of plumbing with agricultural buildings, as well as on-farm processing
21 operations, while ensuring that such requirements are not unnecessarily restrictive and do not
22 unduly interfere with agricultural development within the Commonwealth. The advisory
23 committee shall submit its recommendations to the board within 12 months of the effective date
24 of this act.

25 (c) Within 6 months of completion of the advisory committee recommendations pursuant
26 to subsection (b), the board shall review the advisory committee's recommendations and make a
27 determination as to which, if any, amendments shall be incorporated to the Uniform State
28 Plumbing Code.