

HOUSE No. 4275

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

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
3 Code, under 248 CMR 10.00, and associated regulations to include a category of agricultural
4 buildings and operations, as defined by section 1A of chapter 128, separate from regulations
5 governing residential and commercial buildings; provided, however, that such amendments shall
6 follow the recommendations provided by the advisory committee formed pursuant to subsection
7 (b) and are 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 and one member appointed by the
15 commissioner of the department of agricultural resources, whom shall be a representative of the
16 Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation. The advisory committee shall make recommendations
17 to the Board for amendments to the Uniform State Plumbing Code, and associated regulations
18 pursuant to subsection (a). Such recommendations shall seek to ensure the safety and efficacy of
19 plumbing with agricultural buildings, as well as on-farm processing operations, while ensuring
20 that such requirements are not unnecessarily restrictive and do not unduly interfere with
21 agricultural development within the Commonwealth. The advisory committee shall submit its
22 recommendations to the Board within 12 months of the effective date of this act.

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