

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4275**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen**  
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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  
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.