

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 309**

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**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**

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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.

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[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.