

**Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure  
2025-2026 (194<sup>th</sup>) Bill Summary**

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**BILL NUMBER:** H473

**TITLE:** An Act relative to the registration of irrigation contractors

**SPONSOR(S):** Vieira, David T.

**HEARING DATE:** April 29, 2025

**REPORTING DEADLINE:** June 28, 2025

**CURRENT LAW**

Chapter 13 of the General Laws governs the division of occupational licensure and the several boards of registration in the Commonwealth

Chapter 93A of the General Laws prohibits unfair methods of competition and the use of unfair or deceptive business acts and practices against other businesses and consumers; and provides for individuals, class actions, businesses, and the Attorney General’s Office to take action against such acts.

Chapter 112 of the General Laws governs the registration of certain professions and occupations in the Commonwealth; and the duties of the commissioner of occupational licensure and commissioner of public health.

**SUMMARY**

This legislation seeks to establish a board of registration of irrigation contractors. Pursuant to the creation of that board, this legislation also seeks to add definitions pertaining to irrigation contractors and their licensure to the General Laws.

The board shall review applications for certification, register and issue certificates of registration, take appropriate disciplinary action, including but not limited to the assessment of penalties or the suspension or revocation of said certification, require continuing education requirements, and maintain a current roster of irrigation contractors in the Commonwealth. It shall consist of seven governor-appointed members.

Before being examined for registration as an irrigation contractor, each applicant shall submit evidence to the board that they are at least eighteen years of age and of good moral character; are a citizen of the United States or have legally declared their intention of so becoming; and are duly certified in good standing with the nationally recognized Irrigation Association as a certified irrigation contractor.

There are several exemptions from these rules, including but not limited to private homeowners, farmers, and golf courses.

Violations shall be considered unfair and deceptive acts and subject to the provisions of Chapter 93A.