

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

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**BILL NUMBER:** H326

**TITLE:** An Act relative to pipefitting licensure

**SPONSOR(S):** Biele, David

**HEARING DATE:** April 29, 2025

**REPORTING DEADLINE:** June 28, 2025

**CURRENT LAW**

Chapter 146 of the Massachusetts General Laws governs the inspection of boilers and air tanks, as well as the licensure of engineers, firemen, and operators of hoisting machinery.

Sections 81 through 88 of said chapter oversee the examination, licensing, and classification of pipefitter licenses as governed by the bureau of pipefitters, refrigeration technicians, and sprinkler fitters.

**SUMMARY**

This legislation seeks to add new definitions for “Geothermal heat pump”, “Hydrogen system”, “Microreactor”, and “Small modular reactor”, and includes the work on such systems as pipefitting.

Further, the legislation seeks to add a new definition for “Residential/Light Commercial Refrigeration”, and requires the bureau of pipefitters, refrigeration technicians, and sprinkler fitters to adopt regulations for the licensure of refrigeration technicians working on residential or light commercial refrigeration systems of less than 10 tons. Further, the license fees collected would be placed in a retained revenue account to hire qualified inspectors for enforcement purposes.