

**Joint Committee on Financial Services**  
**The 194th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**2025-2026**  
**Bill Summary**

**Bill No:** H4112

**Title:** An Act relative to firefighting water supplies and a state cistern program

**Sponsor:** Rep. Kate Hogan

**Hearing Date:** November 4, 2025

**Reporting Date:** January 3, 2026

**Similar Matters:** N/A

**Prior History:**

**Current Law:**

Chapter 148 deals with fire prevention and things that could cause fires. Bill would create a new section in the chapter.

**Summary:**

Would create a fire suppression resource fund which would get its funding from money recovered from fees procured from SECTION 2 of bill and any money appropriated by the legislature. Money will be used by fire marshal to purchase and install water cisterns in urban and rural areas where there is restricted access and for fire safety and prevention programs.

**SECTION 2**

A \$2 fee will be added to every homeowner's policy upon the issuance or renewal of a policy. It will be an annual fee.

A commission would be established to determine the best and most efficient way to implement program and install water cisterns in Massachusetts. Commission would have 6 members: state fire marshal, someone from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), someone from the department of environmental protection, someone from the division of occupational licensure, chief fire warden of DCR, and someone from the Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts.

Report studies recommendations from municipalities that currently have problems with water access, figure out optimum placement of water cisterns, program based on data driven conclusions, and the cost to construct 10 water cisterns and install/maintain them in a year.

Report by Jan. 1, 2027 to secretary of the executive office of public safety and security; (ii) joint committee on public safety and homeland security; and (iii) offices of the house and senate clerk.