

HOUSE . . . . . No. 920.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 19, 1893.

The committee on Public Health, to whom was referred the petition of Henry A. Desper and others for a State Board to supervise the business of plumbing to avoid danger to public health from unskilled workmen and insufficient work (with House, No. 400), report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

EDW. W. GLEASON.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-three.

### AN ACT

For the Licensing of Plumbers and the Supervision of the Business of Plumbing in this Commonwealth.

*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. No person, firm or corporation  
2 not now engaged in or working at the business of  
3 plumbing shall hereafter engage in or work at  
4 said business in this Commonwealth, either as a  
5 master or employing plumber or as a journeyman  
6 plumber, unless he or it first receives a license  
7 therefor, in accordance with the provisions of this  
8 act.

1 SECT. 2. Any person desiring to engage in or  
2 work at the business of plumbing, either as a  
3 master or employing plumber or as a journeyman  
4 plumber, shall apply to the board of health having  
5 jurisdiction in the locality where he intends to

6 engage in or work at such business, except in  
7 Boston, where such application shall be made to  
8 the inspector of buildings, and shall, at such time  
9 and place as may be designated by the board of  
10 examiners hereinafter provided for, to whom such  
11 application shall be referred, be examined as to  
12 his qualifications for such business. In the case  
13 of a firm or corporation, the examination and  
14 licensing of any one member of the firm or the  
15 manager of the corporation shall satisfy the  
16 requirements of this act.

1 SECT. 3. There shall be in each city and town  
2 of five thousand inhabitants or more a board of  
3 examiners of plumbers, consisting of the chairman  
4 of the board of health and, except in Boston, the  
5 engineer of such city or town, and in Boston, the  
6 inspector of buildings of said city, who shall be  
7 members ex-officio of said board, and serve with-  
8 out compensation, and a third member, who shall  
9 be a practical plumber. Said third member shall  
10 be appointed by the board of health of said city  
11 or town within three months from the passage of  
12 this act, for the term of one year from the first  
13 day of May in the year of appointment, and there-  
14 after annually before the first day of June, and  
15 shall be allowed a sum not exceeding five dollars  
16 for each day of actual service, to be paid from the  
17 treasury of such city or town: *provided*, that if  
18 in any city or town there is no engineer, said  
19 board of health shall appoint a second member of  
20 said board of examiners, whose term of office and

21 compensation shall be the same as is heretofore  
22 provided for said third member.

1     SECT. 4. Said board of examiners shall as  
2 soon as may be after the appointment of said third  
3 member, meet and organize by the selection of a  
4 chairman, and then designate the times and places  
5 for the examination of all applicants desiring to  
6 engage in or work at the business of plumbing  
7 within their respective jurisdictions. Said board  
8 shall examine said applicants as to their practical  
9 knowledge of plumbing, house drainage, and  
10 plumbing ventilation, and if satisfied of the com-  
11 petency of the applicant, shall so certify to the  
12 board of health of their respective city or town,  
13 and in Boston, to the inspector of buildings.  
14 Said board or inspector shall thereupon issue a  
15 license to such applicant authorizing him to  
16 engage in or work at the business of plumbing,  
17 either as master or employing plumber or as a  
18 journeyman plumber. The fee for a license for a  
19 master or employing plumber shall be five dollars;  
20 for a journeyman plumber, it shall be one dollar.  
21 Said licenses shall be valid and have force  
22 throughout the Commonwealth, and shall be  
23 renewed annually upon payment of a fee of fifty  
24 cents. In case of removal beyond the jurisdiction  
25 of the board or inspector issuing the original  
26 license, it may be renewed by any board having  
27 like authority.

1     SECT. 5. The board of health of each city and  
2 town mentioned in section three of this act, except

3 Boston, and in Boston, the inspector of buildings,  
4 shall, within three months from the passage of  
5 this act, appoint one or more inspectors of plumb-  
6 ing, who shall be practical plumbers, and who  
7 shall hold office until removed by said board or  
8 inspector. The compensation of such inspectors  
9 shall be determined by the board or inspector  
10 appointing them, and be paid from the treasury of  
11 their respective city or town. Said inspectors  
12 shall inspect all plumbing work for which permits  
13 are hereafter granted within their respective juris-  
14 dictions, in process of construction, alteration or  
15 repair; and shall report to said board or inspector  
16 all violations of any law, ordinance or by-law  
17 relating to plumbing work, and also perform such  
18 other appropriate duties as may be required.

1 SECT. 6. Each city and town of five thousand  
2 inhabitants or more in this Commonwealth, ex-  
3 cept Boston, shall by ordinance or by-law, within  
4 six months from the passage of this act, prescribe  
5 rules and regulations for the materials, construc-  
6 tions, alteration and inspection of all pipes, tanks,  
7 faucets, valves and other fixtures by and through  
8 which water or sewage is used and carried, and  
9 provide that no such pipes, tanks, faucets, valves  
10 or other fixtures shall be placed in any building  
11 in such city or town except in accordance with  
12 plans which shall be approved by the board of  
13 health of such city or town, or such person or  
14 persons as said board of health may designate;  
15 and shall further provide that no plumbing work

16 be done except in the case of repair of leaks,  
17 without permit being first issued therefor upon  
18 such terms and conditions as such city and town  
19 shall prescribe.

1 SECT. 7. Any person violating any provision  
2 of this act shall be deemed guilty of a mis-  
3 demeanor, and be subject to a fine of fifty dollars  
4 for each and every violation thereof.

1 SECT. 8. All acts and parts of acts incon-  
2 sistent herewith are hereby repealed.



