

HOUSE No. 740

By Mr. Eldridge of Acton, petition of James B. Eldridge relative to the efficient design, installation and operation of irrigation systems. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE EFFICIENT DESIGN, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF IRRIGATION SYSTEMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The purpose of this Act is to maximize the efficient use of water
2 and minimize wasteful and unnecessary water consumption by
3 ensuring that irrigation systems are designed, installed and operated
4 in an efficient manner. Such efficient use shall help ensure the cur-
5 rent and future sustainability of the water resources of the Common-
6 wealth to meet essential potable and fire protection needs as well as
7 maintain healthy aquatic and other water-dependent organisms and
8 ecosystems. The Act will establish a certification, licensing or other
9 mechanism to ensure that persons and companies engaged in the irri-
10 gation business understand and support the importance of water con-
11 servation and a public policy of restricting outdoor water use,
12 including limits on the installation or operation of irrigation systems,
13 if and when it is determined necessary to maintain adequate water
14 supplies to meet essential public and/or ecological needs.