

SENATE NO. 1853

AN ACT RELATIVE TO LANDSCAPE SPRINKLER 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 SECTION 1. Chapter 142 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 20
2 the following section:-

3 Section 20A. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary,
4 rain sensor devices and back flow preventers shall be required for newly installed or renovated
5 residential outdoor landscape sprinkler systems. The examiners shall adopt regulations for the
6 installation of the sprinkler systems, back flow preventers and the rain sensor device to override
7 and suspend the operation of the system during periods of rainfall. The regulations shall specify
8 the amount of rainfall required to activate a rain sensor.

9 SECTION 2. The Department of Revenue shall, in consultation with the Department of
10 Agricultural Resources, create a 50% personal income tax credit on the purchase and
11 installation of up to \$500 worth of Water Wise plants and landscaping items.

- 12 SECTION 3. The Commissioner of the Department of Agricultural Resources in consultation
13 with the Department of Environmental Protection shall develop a list of Water Wise plants and
14 landscaping items intended to reduce water usage, including but not limited to:
- 15 -Drought resistant plants that last for more than one year
 - 16 -Kits or devices specifically designed for generating compost
 - 17 -Grey-water recovery systems where the effluent is used for watering plants
 - 18 -Rainwater recovery and storage devices where they are used for watering plants
 - 19 -Rain sensors for irrigation systems
 - 20 -Underground drip irrigation systems