

Testimony in Support of House Bill 4719

Chairman Chan, Chairman Payano, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Leo Sharkey, the owner of Jay Moody HVAC, a family-owned HVAC service company.

I'm submitting this testimony in strong support for House Bill 4719--An Act to Create HVAC Construction Supervisor Licensing for Small Businesses.

Having an extensive corporate background and now 6 years of experience in the HVAC industry, and I can assure you that this bill is long overdue. Bill 4719 addresses a massive shortage that directly impact Massachusetts consumers, public safety, and our state's clean energy goals.

Our company has 3 degreed Mechanical Engineers on staff, including myself, and we are constantly called to come evaluate and repair HVAC systems that were not properly designed nor installed.

Every day, Massachusetts consumers have no reliable way to verify that the person responsible for designing and installing their HVAC system is properly qualified.

Poorly designed, sized, and installed HVAC systems result in the following problems for Massachusetts homeowners:

Higher utility bills

Premature system failures and unnecessary repairs

Uncomfortable homes

Safety risks

All of these problems are wholly preventable with clear licensing standards.

But, today, Massachusetts residents have no way to identify which companies are good and work to national standards and building codes and which do not. The result is many homeowners are paying large amounts of money for very sub-standard work. And without a license to go after, many homeowners have little recourse for reimbursement from these bad actors.

We owe them the assurance that the work is being done by qualified professionals who are held accountable to clear standards.

Here's what makes House Bill 4719 so practical: **HVAC work is already regulated by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards.**

This bill simply formalizes the licensing side, using the exact same framework that's working for other construction trades

House Bill 4719 brings HVAC in line with other construction trades such as masonry, roofing, etc. It's a win for consumers, and a win for the industry.

This bill also recognizes that HVAC is a specialized trade requiring specific technical knowledge.

That's why House Bill 4719 adds two HVAC professionals to the BBRS Continuing Education Advisory Council.

This ensures the Board has the technical expertise it needs to develop appropriate training standards and requirements for this new license category.

We're not asking the Board to figure this out alone—we're offering to assist with industry expertise to make sure the licensing standards are practical, effective, and will truly protect consumers in the commonwealth.

This legislation protects Massachusetts consumers by ensuring the following:

- Systems are properly sized and installed from day one
- Homeowners get the energy savings they paid for
- Safety standards are maintained as new refrigerant technologies come to market
- And There's clear accountability when problems arise

Jay Moody HVAC strongly urges this Committee to report House Bill 4719 favorably.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I'm happy to answer any questions.