

Testimony in Support of House Bill 4719

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

My name is Mike Cappuccio, Today I serve as Government Affairs Advisor for NETR, a Sila Services Company.

I'm here today to voice our strong support for House Bill 4719--An Act to Create HVAC Construction Supervisor Licensing for Small Businesses.

I have 44 years of experience in the HVAC industry, and I can tell you without hesitation: this bill is long overdue. It addresses a critical gap that directly impact Massachusetts consumers, public safety, and our state's clean energy goals.

Right now, Massachusetts consumers have no reliable way to verify that the person responsible for supervising their HVAC installation is properly qualified.

When HVAC systems aren't properly designed, sized, and installed correctly, consumers experience the following:

Higher utility bills

Premature system failures and unnecessary repairs

Uncomfortable homes

Safety risks

These problems are preventable.

But without clear licensing standards for HVAC work, consumers are left to figure it out on their own usually after spending thousands of dollars.

Massachusetts has invested billions of dollars in clean energy programs and heat pump rebates to help homeowners transition away from fossil fuels.

But here's the problem: **a high-efficiency system installed incorrectly performs worse than a lower-efficiency system installed properly.**

We're asking consumers to make major investments in new technology across the commonwealth.

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 while generating local revenue. It's a win for municipalities, 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

NETR a Sila Services Company 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.