



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

**Committee Bill No. 5785**

LCO No. 5126



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:  
(GL)

**AN ACT CONCERNING INSURANCE AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS  
FOR HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2016*) (a) Each person who  
2 applies for or seeks to renew a certificate of registration as a home  
3 improvement contractor pursuant to chapter 400 of the general statutes  
4 shall provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount not less than  
5 one million dollars to: (1) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection  
6 or the commissioner's designee, and (2) the municipal building  
7 department in each municipality where such person submits building  
8 permit applications.

9 (b) Each person who applies for or seeks to renew a certificate of  
10 registration as a home improvement contractor pursuant to chapter  
11 400 of the general statutes shall provide evidence that such person has  
12 passed: (1) An open-book written examination approved by the  
13 Commissioner of Consumer Protection and based on written material  
14 published and distributed at no charge to the public by the  
15 Department of Consumer Protection, or (2) a course of study from a  
16 program or school approved by the Commissioner of Consumer

17 Protection.

18 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to:  
19 (1) Any home improvement contractor who has continuously held a  
20 valid registration in this state for the five years prior to the date of such  
21 application or renewal, or (2) any registered home improvement  
22 contractor who has gross annual receipts of not more than thirty  
23 thousand dollars.

24 Sec. 2. (Effective January 1, 2016) (a) The Commissioner of Consumer  
25 Protection shall conduct a study regarding enforcement and complaint  
26 procedures relating to home improvement contractors registered  
27 pursuant to chapter 400 of the general statutes.

28 (b) The study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section  
29 shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) An analysis of whether the  
30 current complaint form and procedures utilized by the Department of  
31 Consumer Protection regarding home improvement contractors are  
32 adequate and what specific changes may be made to improve such  
33 complaint form and department procedures, and (2)  
34 recommendations, if any, regarding the open-book written  
35 examination and course of study requirements specified in subsection  
36 (b) of section 1 of this act.

37 (c) Not later than July 1, 2016, the Commissioner of Consumer  
38 Protection, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
39 shall report the results of the study conducted pursuant to this section  
40 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
41 cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection and  
42 occupational licensing.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	January 1, 2016	New section
Sec. 2	January 1, 2016	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To protect consumers by requiring home improvement contractors to obtain liability insurance coverage and pass a written examination or course of study and to require the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to conduct a study regarding home improvement contractors.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. BARAM, 15th Dist.; REP. ROSE, 118th Dist.

H.B. 5785