

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
(After Deadline)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1563

H.P. 1148 House of Representatives, May 14, 1987
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.
Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative KETOVER of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator KANY of Kennebec, Representatives
DORE of Auburn and HANDY of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

Resolve, Concerning the Testing of School
Buildings for Radon.

1
2
3

4 Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves
5 of the Legislature do not become effective until 90
6 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies;
7 and

8 Whereas, radon is a known cancer causing agent;
9 and

10 Whereas, Maine's granitic geological foundation
11 creates a significant risk of radon contamination of
12 air and water in our schools; and

1 Whereas, it is in the best interest of the people
2 of the State of Maine to protect our children from
3 the adverse affects of radon contamination; and

4 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
5 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of
6 the Constitution of Maine and require the following
7 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
8 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 Testing procedures established. Resolved: That
11 the Department of Human Services shall establish, by
12 rule, procedures to test all public schools and pri-
13 vate schools approved for tuition purposes for radon
14 levels. Procedures shall provide for air and water
15 testing, as follows:

16 1. Air testing. Any public school or private
17 school approved for tuition purposes shall submit to
18 the Public Health Laboratory of the Department of Hu-
19 man Services 2 samples of air collected in accordance
20 with guidelines provided by the Public Health Labora-
21 tory. The department shall perform the radon air
22 test on each sample. In the event of a test result
23 indicating an elevated level of radon contamination,
24 as determined by the department standards, the school
25 shall provide an additional sample.

26 2. Water testing. Any public school or private
27 school approved for tuition purposes which takes its
28 water from a well shall submit a sample of water to
29 the Public Health Laboratory of the Department of Hu-
30 man Services, collected in accordance with guidelines
31 provided by the Public Health Laboratory. The de-
32 partment shall perform the radon water test and the
33 Gross Alpha water test on each sample. In the event
34 of test results indicating an elevated level of radon
35 contamination, as determined by department standards,
36 the school shall provide an additional sample to the
37 department.

38 3. Time requirement. Initial air and water sam-
39 ples shall be submitted not later than 60 days fol-
40 lowing the effective date of this resolve; and be it
41 further

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 This resolve provides for radon testing of air in
3 all public schools and water in those schools that
4 have a well as their water source, by the Department
5 of Human Services. The department is responsible for
6 providing the schools with the necessary air and wa-
7 ter testing kits accompanied by adequate instructions
8 for the collection of samples; performing the re-
9 quired tests; and reporting test results. The
10 schools are responsible for providing the required
11 samples to the department within 60 days of the ef-
12 fective date of this resolve.

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