

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1433

H.P. 988

House of Representatives, April 13, 2017

**An Act To Protect Maine Children from Lung Cancer by Requiring
Radon Testing in Schools**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative WARREN of Hallowell.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and
Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, PIERCE of Falmouth.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4013** is enacted to read:

3 **§4013. Radon**

4 **1. Testing required.** A school administrative unit shall hire a person registered with
5 the division of environmental health within the Department of Health and Human
6 Services under the Radon Registration Act to test an occupied elementary school or
7 secondary school of the school administrative unit every 5 years for radon.

8 A. If the results of a radon screening test under this subsection indicate radon levels
9 of 4.0 picocuries per liter of air or above, the radon levels in the affected areas must
10 be mitigated by a person registered with respect to both design and installation with
11 the division of environmental health within the Department of Health and Human
12 Services under the Radon Registration Act. A school administrative unit shall
13 consider corrective action in consultation with a person registered with the division of
14 environmental health within the Department of Health and Human Services under the
15 Radon Registration Act for levels found to be between 2.0 picocuries per liter of air
16 and 3.9 picocuries per liter of air.

17 B. The school administrative unit shall maintain, make available for review and
18 notify parents, faculty and staff of test results under this subsection. The school
19 administrative unit shall report radon test results to the Department of Education and
20 the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department of Health and
21 Human Services shall prepare a report of the test results from all schools and no later
22 than October 1, 2022 and every 5 years thereafter shall submit this report to the
23 Legislature and the Governor.

24 **2. New schools.** A school administrative unit, when building a new elementary
25 school or secondary school, shall use radon-resistant new construction techniques as
26 shown in the United States Environmental Protection Agency document, Radon
27 Prevention in the Design and Construction of Schools and Other Large Buildings.

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill requires school administrative units to test schools for radon every 5 years.
30 If radon levels are above a certain level, the school administrative unit must take action to
31 mitigate the affected areas. The school administrative unit must notify parents, faculty
32 and staff of test results and must report test results to the Department of Education and
33 the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department of Health and Human
34 Services must report these results every 5 years to the Legislature and the Governor.

35 The bill also requires school administrative units to build new schools using radon-
36 resistant new construction techniques as recommended by the United States
37 Environmental Protection Agency.