

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1173

H.P. 745

House of Representatives, March 14, 2023

**An Act Directing the Bureau of General Services to Ensure
Adequate Air Quality in All State-owned and State-leased Buildings**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MONTELL of Gardiner.
Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and
Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, COPELAND of Saco, KESSLER of South
Portland, MALON of Biddeford, O'CONNELL of Brewer, RISEMAN of Harrison,
SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1742-H** is enacted to read:

3 **§1742-H. Bureau of General Services; air quality assurance in state-owned and state-**
4 **leased buildings**

5 The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services
6 shall ensure adequate air quality in buildings owned or leased by the State, whether used
7 by the executive, judicial or legislative branches, including but not limited to buildings in
8 the State House complex. In order to ensure adequate air quality, the department shall test,
9 inspect and monitor all factors that may affect air quality in each building, including by
10 testing for radon, formaldehyde, mold, microbial growth, vermin and any other potential
11 source of air contamination. The department shall develop and implement action plans to
12 remedy air quality issues that are discovered and to maintain adequate air quality, including
13 but not limited to action plans for inspecting and, as appropriate, installing, renovating or
14 redesigning building ventilation systems.

15 **Sec. 2. Report and recommendations.** By January 15, 2024, the Department of
16 Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services shall provide to the
17 Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs a report on its testing
18 and inspection of buildings as required under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section
19 1742-H together with a report of action plans developed or implemented under that section
20 as well as an estimate of any costs the department identifies to complete actions necessary
21 to ensure adequate air quality in accordance with that section. The Joint Standing
22 Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs may report out a bill to the Second
23 Regular Session of the 131st Legislature to fund all costs identified by the department in
24 its report.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill does the following.

27 1. It directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of
28 General Services to ensure adequate air quality in buildings owned or leased by the State,
29 whether used by the executive, judicial or legislative branches, including but not limited to
30 buildings in the State House complex. The department is directed to test, inspect and
31 monitor all factors that may affect air quality in each building and develop and implement
32 action plans to remedy air quality issues that are discovered and to maintain adequate air
33 quality.

34 2. By January 15, 2024, it directs the Department of Administrative and Financial
35 Services, Bureau of General Services to provide to the Joint Standing Committee on
36 Appropriations and Financial Affairs a report on its testing and inspection of buildings
37 together with a report of action plans developed or implemented as well as an estimate of
38 any costs the department identifies to complete actions necessary to ensure adequate air
39 quality. The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs may report
40 out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature to fund all costs identified
41 by the department in its report.