MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE 114TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JULY 1989

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD 889

An Act to Improve Indoor Air Quality Through Accurate Testing and Effective Reduction of Radon Levels in Buildings

CARRY-OVER

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-111

KETOVER PERKINS

KANY

DORE

SUMMARY

This bill establishes the Radon Registration Act to ensure accurate testing for the presence of radon, to encourage safe and effective mitigation of dangerous radon levels and to protect property owners from unqualified or unscrupulous firms and consultants by establishing in the Department of Human Services programs to register firms and individuals involved with radon testing, consulting, construction or other remedial services.

The bill required the registration of all firms and individuals measuring or testing radon levels in existing buildings or on building lots, consultants designing plans to reduce radon levels in existing buildings; and contractors modifying existing structures to reduce radon levels. Any persons working on a building they own or inhabit, builders of new construction and Department of Human Services employees performing their assigned duties are exempt from registration. Registrants would have 45 days to report test results or mitigation activities to the department.

Any person providing testing devices that require laboratory analysis is required to have the analysis performed by a facility which has passed the voluntary radon/radon progeny measurement proficiency program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and to divulge the name and address of the facility when reporting the test results. The bill also identifies the Division of Health Engineering as the lead agency for radon programs. Civil penalties are included in this bill.

The committee amendment (H-111) retains the provisions of the original bill requiring all persons providing radon testing or mitigation services to register while clarifying that it is a violation to provide these services if not registered, including listed facilities.

The amendment also:

- expands the definition of radon testing device to include continuous monitoring devices;
- removes the requirement for expiration dates on radon testing devices;
- removes the requirement to report the name of the municipality where a test is performed;
- adds a section prohibiting the advertisement of radon testing devices as "EPA-Approved"; and
- adds a biennial registration fee.

Funding for this bill was not available and the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs held it over to the next regular session.