

May 3, 2019

RADON

TESTING
MITIGATION

Ohio House of Representatives
Finance Committee
Attention: Chairman Oelslager

VAPOR INTRUSION

MITIGATION

Reference: The Addition of R.C. 3723.081 into House Bill 166 – Radon Specialist Requirement

Chairman Oelslager,

It has come to our attention today that a rule change is being considered, which would eliminate the current requirement to have a licensed Radon Specialist present on all radon mitigation projects in Ohio. The current requirement has been in place for years. It ensures quality in the design and installation process for performing life-saving work.

Our company, in business since 1989, has complied with the current rule at a substantial cost unlike many other licensed companies in Ohio, by licensing all of our installers and staff who are involved with these processes. However, that cost does not outweigh the benefit of possessing credentials which help us to follow the best standards and to make sure that our people doing the installation work have received the proper professional training. It also requires that each individual installer on our staff take part in continuing education to stay current on the latest research and techniques for lowering deadly radon concentrations.

This requirement levels the playing field and promotes an industry with more integrity, better performance and fewer contractors doing substandard work. For those who have complied, the current rules promote better performance which in theory leads to fewer cases of radon-induced lung cancer in Ohio.

Radon is considered a serious health risk in our state, with all 88 counties having documented, elevated radon levels. It makes perfect sense to strengthen the fight against radon-induced lung cancer by making sure that companies and their individuals, who are vital to the process, be properly licensed to do the critical work of installing radon mitigation systems.

Please note that installing these systems is not a simple process when done correctly. It involves the application of specific techniques and training. This should not be left to the individual licensee or company owner then left to chance in the field. This could be compared to allowing untrained medical personnel to perform procedures, once they are trained by a licensed medical professional at that individual's discretion, without a license of their own.

We urge the committee to exclude this rule change from House Bill 166 and as such to protect the integrity of the radon industry in Ohio. Strides are being made to increase public awareness regarding the radon threat. The last thing we need is to enable installers with no credentials to install systems designed to protect the health of Ohioans.

Respectfully,

Environmental Doctor
Radon Contractor License Number RC98

Brenden Gitzinger

Brenden Gitzinger, President
Radon Specialist License Number RS189