

Protecting Ohioans Through Awareness, Education and Collaboration

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

We are writing to respectfully ask for your consideration and support for a provision that was included in the previous iteration of HB33—the state operating budget you're currently considering.

Radon is the leading cause of Lung Cancer among non-smokers. This is according to the US Surgeon General, The EPA and the American Medical Association—and many other public health professionals. There are over 2,559 new cases of Lung Cancer in Ohio annually. According to the NIH Cancer Institute, the annual cost of direct treatment in Ohio is \$205,000 per incident. In total lung cancer costs Ohio citizens over 524 million dollars annually in preventable health care costs!

The OARP is a non-profit trade organization dedicated to raising awareness of this issue and advancing legislation that can protect the citizens of Ohio. Please consider investing in the health of our school children and those who work in our school buildings across the state. Our ask is that you reinsert a provision in the House-passed version of HB33 that would appropriate \$500,000 in each fiscal year to Ohio schools for the purposes of radon testing and mitigation.

We are humbly asking for your support in restoring this budget line item. If you have any questions or would prefer to discuss this legislation or any future legislative opportunities, please feel free to reach out to our board of directors. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely, Shad Evans, President OARP Brenden Gitzinger, Vice President OARP Jessica Karns, Treasurer OARP David Metzger, Secretary OARP