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Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

My name is William Friend and I own and operate a Radon Testing and Mitigation business in Powell, Ohio. I also sit on the board of directors for the Ohio Association of Radon Professionals (OARP).

According to the US Surgeon General, The EPA, and the American Medical Association, Radon is the leading cause of Lung Cancer among non-smokers. 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 \$524 million in preventable health care costs!

A line item in the State budget HB 33 that would appropriate \$500,000 annually to Ohio schools for the purposes of radon testing and mitigation. As a father of two school-aged children and husband to a teacher you can understand my interest. This grant would give our schools the resources necessary to protect the health of their students and staff.

As of today, this money has been removed as part of the Senate revisions to this bill. I am humbly asking for your support in restoring this budget 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 OARP board of directors.

Thank you for your time considering this issue.

Sincerely,

Bill Friend

OARP Board of Directors
National Radon Proficiency Program
Ohio Licensed Radon Mitigation Specialist
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