

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Education to which was referred Senate Bill No. 279
3 entitled “An act relating to radon testing in schools” respectfully reports that it
4 has considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking
5 out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. chapter 40 is added:

7 CHAPTER 40. RADON TESTING IN SCHOOLS

8 § 1791. DEFINITIONS

9 As used in this chapter:

10 (1) “School” means a public school or independent school as defined in
11 16 V.S.A. § 11.

12 (2) “Facility” means all or any part of a building on a school’s campus
13 deemed by the Commissioner of Health or designee to be at high risk for
14 elevated concentrations of radon.

15 § 1792. MANDATORY RADON TESTING IN SCHOOLS

16 (a) The Department of Health shall perform a radon test on the facilities of
17 at least 40 schools each year until each school in the State has been tested.
18 Schools requesting that a radon test be performed by the Department shall be
19 among the first schools tested. A school shall have its facilities tested no less
20 frequently than every 15 years.

1 (b)(1) The Department shall provide a school’s principal or head of
2 school with:

3 (A) the results of the school’s radon test;

4 (B) information on the level at which the U.S. Environmental
5 Protection Agency recommends taking action to reduce radon concentrations at
6 school facilities; and

7 (C) information about the health effects of elevated radon
8 concentrations on children and adults.

9 (2) The school administrator shall share the test results and all
10 information provided by the Department with parents, guardians, students,
11 school employees, school volunteers, the school board, and any community
12 representatives regularly present at the school.

13 § 1793. NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION OR EXPANSION

14 All new school construction, including the expansion of existing schools,
15 shall endeavor to employ radon-resistant new construction.

16 Sec. 2. SCHOOL RADON REMEDIATION STUDY COMMITTEE

17 (a) Creation. There is created the School Radon Remediation Study
18 Committee to explore funding opportunities for the remediation of elevated
19 radon concentrations in schools and contingency plans for the loss of related
20 federal funding.

1 (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following six
2 members:

3 (1) the State Treasurer or designee;

4 (2) the Secretary of Education or designee;

5 (3) the Commissioner of Health or designee;

6 (4) a member appointed by the State School Boards Association;

7 (5) a member appointed by the Vermont Superintendents

8 Association; and

9 (6) a radon mitigation professional certified by the National Proficiency
10 Radon Program, appointed by the Director of the Department of Labor's
11 Workers' Compensation and Safety Division.

12 (c) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical, and
13 legal assistance of the Agency of Education.

14 (e) Report. On or before December 15, 2018, the Committee shall submit a
15 written report to the House Committee on Education and to the Senate
16 Committee on Education containing viable options for funding the remediation
17 of elevated radon concentrations in schools.

18 (f) Meetings.

19 (1) The State Treasurer or designee shall call the first meeting of the
20 Committee to occur on or before October 1, 2018.

1 (2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the
2 first meeting.

3 (3) The Committee shall cease to exist on December 31, 2018.

4 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

6

7 (Committee vote: _____)

8

9

Senator _____

10

FOR THE COMMITTEE