

HB 2931

Relating to testing radon levels

HB 2931 requires the Oregon Health Authority to disseminate information related to elevated levels of radon to each school district in Oregon. The bill requires each school district to develop a plan for testing schools for elevated levels of radon. OHA must develop a model plan for school districts to follow. The bill specifies minimum standards for this plan, including providing for testing of radon in schools at least once every 10 years. Results of these tests must be made available to district school boards, OHA, and the school community. School districts must submit their plan to OHA by September 1, 2016. These plans must require initial testing of schools for elevated levels of radon by January 1, 2021 unless the school has tested for elevated levels of radon on or after January 1, 2006.

The amendment removes funding language because the fiscal impact of this bill is anticipated to be minimal to Oregon Health Authority and school districts because the bill only directs these entities to develop a plan. Because the bill specifies that initial testing must be carried out by January 1, 2021, school districts have six years to conduct the first test. The minimal fiscal does not include the full cost of actually conducting radon testing for every district, only the cost of developing the plan. It is assumed that the plan will address implementation issues including the cost of testing, and making these results available to the school community, as well as how these expenses will be funded.

The Subcommittee recommends HB 2931 be amended by the -A2 amendment and be reported out do pass as amended.