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My thanks to the committee for considering my testimony on LD 819 – An act to reduce lung cancer rates in Maine by requiring testing for and mitigation of radon in residential buildings by landlords. Cancer is a terrible disease that ravages not only the patient but also their families. Too many of us have experienced the devastation this can bring to not only our physical well being but also our emotional state of mind. The World Health Organization, the National Academy of Sciences, the US Department of Health and Human Services, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, have classified radon as a human carcinogen that is connected to lung cancer. I am privileged to work at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute which is committed to developing new therapeutics and an eventual cure for cancer. I believe that this work must be met with preventative measures such as radon mitigation so that people living in homes they believe to be safe and secure can avoid this terrible disease. Thank you for your consideration of my statement.

Julie Koh