

Gloria Linnertz
Waterloo, IL

Dear Maine Representatives and Senators,

The tenants of Maine need your help for a safe, protected, and healthy living environment. Approximately 28% of Maine residents are renters and may have no idea if a silent killer—radioactive radon gas—is also inhabiting their residence. According to the Maine State Housing Authority, landlords are required to have the air in each building with rental units tested for the presence of radon and statutory and common law requires that there should be no unacceptable level of risk to the health or safety of the occupiers. Many people rent for years and never purchase a home and, like millions of others in our nation, they may not even know that radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers, the leading environmental cause of cancer death, or if it is in their dwelling or not.

You may have been a renter in your lifetime and may have been living with elevated radon gas exposure without your knowledge since this intruder is odorless, tasteless, and invisible. Fifteen years ago, my husband was diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer. The oncologist told us radon was a known cause of lung cancer, and we didn't know that for eighteen years we had been living with over four times the EPA action level of radon in our home. Joe, my husband, lived six weeks after his diagnosis.

This shouldn't happen to homeowners or renters. You are in the position to protect the citizens of Maine from this demon. Please support and sponsor legislation that will help save lives. What more could you do for the people of your state?

Sincerely,

Gloria Linnertz

Citizens for Radioactive Radon Reduction

618 830 4660

618 Evansville Ave.

Waterloo, IL 62298