Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D. Commissioner



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Senator Ned Claxton, Chair Representative Michele Meyer, Chair Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Re: LD 1437 - An Act To Reduce Poisoning from Radon, Arsenic and Other Air or Water Pollutants by Expanding Education, Testing and Mitigation Regarding Those Pollutants

Dear Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

This letter is to provide information about LD 1437, *An Act To Reduce Poisoning from Radon, Arsenic and Other Air or Water Pollutants by Expanding Education, Testing and Mitigation Regarding Those Pollutants*, and the potential impact of the proposed legislation, if enacted.

This bill would require education, training requirements, testing and mitigation regarding Radon, Arsenic and Uranium in air and groundwater by many different State agencies, authorities and commissions. The Maine Center of Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) is neither for nor against this bill and offers the following information for consideration.

Maine CDC has various programs that serve as educational and informational sources for Radon, Arsenic, and Uranium. We have developed a 3-credit course approved by the Real Estate Commission for realtors related to radon. We are already involved in outreach and education to various professional groups as well as the general public through various initiatives like annual mailings to households with young children and assisting with the development of school-based curriculums on radon as well as water testing sponsored by the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory. We have no objections to developing training or providing information electronically to state employees. We will defer to Maine State Housing on requirements to provide funding for testing and mitigation in its various programs that would be affected. It appears Maine CDC is expected to absorb the cost of implementing this bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. The Maine CDC is available to provide additional details for the Committee's consideration and to participate in the work session.

Respectfully,

Nancy Beardsley, Deputy Director

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Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention