

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON RADON GAS

2013 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: John L. Valentine

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor designates May 1, 2013, as Utah State Radon Action Day in the state of Utah and urges citizens to prevent radon contamination.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ designates May 1, 2013, as Utah State Radon Action Day in the state of Utah;
- ▶ urges business owners and managers, landlords, real estate licensees, home

inspectors, home builders, mortgage lenders, real estate appraisers, trade organizations, government agencies at the local and state level, community groups, schools, colleges, universities, the medical establishment, and outlets in print media, television, and radio to assist the citizens of the state in protecting themselves from the dangers of radon contamination; and

- ▶ urges the citizens of the state of Utah to take steps to protect themselves from the dangers of radon contamination.

Special Clauses:

None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:

WHEREAS, radon is a naturally occurring, colorless, tasteless gas that is caused by the



28 decay of uranium in soil;

29 WHEREAS, radon can seep into homes and buildings through cracks and other
30 openings in the foundation;

31 WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General warns that radon is a leading cause of
32 lung cancer, second only to smoking;

33 WHEREAS, even extremely high levels of radon in a structure can be reduced to safe
34 levels;

35 WHEREAS, the state of Utah bears a substantial portion of the health care costs related
36 to radon;

37 WHEREAS, the residents of Utah, including children, women, men, and the elderly are
38 all potentially at risk;

39 WHEREAS, it is estimated that as high as 30% of homes in Utah could have unsafe
40 levels of radon contamination;

41 WHEREAS, testing for radon gas is relatively simple and inexpensive; and

42 WHEREAS, the increased education and awareness of the harmful effects of radon will
43 help save and preserve the lives of Utah residents:

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the
45 Governor concurring therein, call upon all Utah property owners to have their structures tested
46 for radon contamination.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon
48 businesses owners and managers to have their properties tested for radon contamination.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon all
50 landlords to have their rental properties tested for radon contamination and to remediate any
51 contaminated properties.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon real
53 estate licensees to use their access to buyers and sellers of real estate to inform them, by use of
54 a radon-specific Buyers Disclosure and Acknowledgment form approved by the Utah Division
55 of Real Estate, of the dangers and risks of radon contamination, encourage testing and
56 remediation, and educate the public about the dangers of radon.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon home
58 inspectors to become informed on the issues related to radon contamination and testing and to

59 inform their clients about the dangers and risks of radon contamination, encourage testing and
60 remediation, and offer reasonable options to radon testing in their services.

61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon all
62 home builders to inform buyers of the dangers and risks of radon contamination, encourage
63 remediation options where needed, use new radon-resistant construction methods, and make
64 these remediation options available and affordable.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon all
66 other real estate professionals, including mortgage lenders and appraisers, to inform buyers and
67 sellers of real estate of the danger and risk of radon contamination by using the Utah
68 Department of Environmental Quality's radon awareness pamphlet at the time that a contract is
69 signed by the purchaser, and encourage purchasers and sellers of real estate to conduct radon
70 contamination tests.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon trade
72 organizations to actively educate their members regarding the dangers of radon contamination,
73 the need for radon testing, and to use their resources to help educate the public on radon
74 contamination.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon the
76 print media, television, and radio outlets to responsibly report on the issues related to radon
77 contamination, testing, and remediation.

78 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon
79 businesses to make available radon test kits at a reasonable price to the public and to provide
80 staff who are informed on radon testing issues.

81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon
82 government agencies at the local and state levels to provide information, resources, and funds
83 to help educate the public on the issues of radon contamination and to create programs and
84 policies to help property owners test for radon and remediate radon contamination, including
85 distributing a copy of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality's radon awareness
86 pamphlet at the time that a building permit is issued.

87 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon
88 community groups to take on the cause of informing the public about the dangers associated
89 with radon contamination and provide information about testing and remediation options.

90 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon all
91 schools, colleges, and universities to actively participate in educating the public about the
92 dangers associated with radon contamination.

93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor call upon the
94 medical establishment to take every effort available to inform the public of the health risks
95 associated with radon contamination, including the commissioning of studies, publications, and
96 outreach programs.

97 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor designate May 1,
98 2013, as Utah State Radon Action Day in the state of Utah.

99 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the major print,
100 television, and radio outlets in the state of Utah.

Legislative Review Note
as of 2-18-13 9:27 AM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel