

Good day Legislators,

I am writing to voice my support for radon licensing and awareness legislation. This bill is on your Thursday agenda. I will be as brief as I can.

I am a supplier of radon mitigation tools and products for homeowners and contractors all over the US. A very large portion of our customer base are Colorado contractors as well as homeowners. Not a week goes by that [I don't hear a horror story](#) of a homeowner that thought they were safe from radon, only to find that their system was installed incorrectly and still contained carcinogenic gas. The failed systems are almost always from unlicensed contractors.

I meet these contractors every day. In fact, I met one this morning. Time after time I hear the same things from the contractors: "eh, I just gotta throw a fan on there for the realtor"; "the homeowner just wants to see the crawl space covered, it doesn't have to work"; "I just gotta get the level down for the test". The truth is: it's easy to install a radon fan, but it's hard to make it work consistently. Too many contractors get into this business for a payday, and it's the homeowners that pay the price, sometimes with their lives. The guy from this morning? He was only concerned with putting in a radon fan. He asked for only the cheapest material and had no idea what he was doing. He rejected my help for proper system sizing. He will go on to install a system this afternoon and I'm not sure it will ever work, but guess what? The home will pass inspection and a new family will move in next week. Inspectors miss blatant red flags all the time. He may go on to have a long career in mitigation. These contractors rarely go out of business. I got an air conditioner installed and it was inspected by city and county officials *four* times. I've had two radon systems installed in my life and no one has ever taken a second look (in fact my realtor told me my first one "was good." Spoiler: it hadn't been tested in ten years!).

Imagine if your furnace leaked carbon monoxide and there was no law requiring a detector. That's the reality for radon in Colorado. Radon is a life-time cancer risk, which makes it easy to ignore. Instead of killing the occupants in their sleep like carbon monoxide; a radon fatality goes like this: you get a pain in your back at retirement age, go to the doctor, and find out you have six months to live.

Don't let your constituents live in danger anymore. Hold contractors accountable. Make them take an accredited course and obtain an education before they advertise their abilities. It's inexpensive and it's easy (it can often be done in a weekend for less than \$1,000!). It will not be a burden to our industry. There are plenty of licensed pros that want to do the right thing, but are undercut by shady unlicensed businesses every day. Let the caring, educated pros take the lead.

Our industry ([AARST-ANSI](#)) already writes our own standards, there are licensing bodies in place across the country. This would be very financially sustainable and low cost for the state.

Thank you!

p.s. I've seen so many red flags I created a webpage for them. I've seen every red flag well over one hundred times and it's always from unlicensed radon "pros". I can't be the radon police, *we need your help.*

Sincerely,

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