

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 218 Session of
2003

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, MOWERY, TOMLINSON, KUKOVICH, BOSCOLA,
MELLOW, COSTA, ORIE, TARTAGLIONE AND RAFFERTY,
FEBRUARY 6, 2003

REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, FEBRUARY 6, 2003

AN ACT

1 Establishing a public information and education program to
2 inform the public about the health effects of molds and
3 methods of prevention, identification and remediation of mold
4 growth; and providing for the powers and duties of the
5 Department of Health.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Short title.

9 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Mold Public
10 Information and Education Act.

11 Section 2. Definitions.

12 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
13 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
14 context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

16 "Mold." A form of multicellular fungi that live on plant or
17 animal matter and in indoor environments. The term includes, but
18 is not limited to: Cladosporium, Penicillium, Alternaria,
19 Aspergillus, Fuarim, Trichoderma, Memnoniella, Mucor and

1 Stachybotrys chartarum, often found in water-damaged building
2 material.

3 Section 3. Public information and education program.

4 (a) Development.--

5 (1) The department shall develop a public information
6 and education program for the purpose of informing the public
7 about the health effects of molds, methods to prevent,
8 identify and remediate mold, resources to obtain information
9 about molds and contact information for individuals,
10 organizations or government entities to assist with public
11 concerns about molds.

12 (2) The program shall be conducted throughout this
13 Commonwealth, and the department shall make its public
14 information and education materials available to public
15 health officers, health care providers, commercial and
16 residential landlord organizations and tenants' groups. The
17 materials shall be readily available to the general public
18 and include, but not be limited to, brochures and fact sheets
19 that are easily understood.

20 (b) Toll-free number.--The department shall establish and
21 publish a toll-free number to better enable the general public
22 to make inquiries and obtain information about the health
23 effects of molds as well as prevention, identification and
24 remediation of molds.

25 (c) Internet.--The department shall make available any
26 educational and informational materials regarding mold on its
27 Internet site.

28 Section 4. Regulations.

29 The department may adopt regulations to implement the
30 provisions of this act.

1 Section 5. Report.

2 The department shall make a report to the General Assembly
3 two years after the effective date of this act. The report shall
4 include the department's findings and recommendations concerning
5 the impact, effectiveness and benefits derived from the program
6 provided under section 3.

7 Section 6. Effective date.

8 This act shall take effect in 90 days.