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The Real Estate School Computer Products Group Real Estate Education Group

Lancaster County Association of Realtors®

3153

August 18, 2016

David J. Allard, CHP, Director
Bureau of Radiation Protection
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Environmental Quality Board
P.O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Dear Mr. Allard:

On behalf of the 1,500 members of the Lancaster County Association of Realtors® we are writing regarding the proposed rulemaking notice "Chapter 240 Fee Increase and Radon Mitigation System Tags" recently published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on July 2, 2016. This rule would increase the cost of radon mitigation by \$50. LCAR opposes this proposed rule as unnecessarily increasing the cost of homeownership in Pennsylvania.

Radon testing and any mitigation stemming from a positive reading is undertaken by homeowners in the process of selling their home because the buyer has asked for testing and/or remediation. Because this cost is occurred during the transfer of real property, LCAR believes this increased fee is a tax on and barrier to homeownership. This new tax would particularly impact first-time home buyers who typically struggle with all the assorted fees and taxes that are part of the transfer of real property.

LCAR opposes this new and unnecessary fee and urges your agency to explore methods to make housing more affordable for all consumers. Thanks for taking time to listen to our concerns:

Sincerely,

Lynn Zimmerman

President

Gretchen Karr

Chair, Government Affairs Committee

Cc Lancaster County State Delegation

Attachment