

Transcript from August 17, 2023: Breath of Fresh Air: Unveiling the Model Clean Indoor Air Act to Safeguard Public Health

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Andrea Lapp: Welcome to today's webinar breath of fresh air unveiling the Model Clean Indoor Air Act to safeguard public health. Our moderator, Paula Olsusky, will now begin.

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Paula Olsiewski: Thank you for joining us today I'm Paula Olsusky, contributing scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. Our team in collaboration with the National Advisory Committee has developed the Model State Indoor Air Quality Act

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Paula Olsiewski: at the MSIA. Qa. Yes, I know that MSI. Qa. Is a multiple. And we'll try to shorten it in some way. Anyway, the model act has been released today on our website. And this is a really important step forward for healthy indoor air. The act provides states with language to establish the legal infrastructure, to regulate indoor air quality

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Paula Olsiewski: at today's webinar. You'll hear a brief overview of the act.

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Paula Olsiewski: followed by a question and answer session to discuss the act, and why, taking those measures are important.

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Paula Olsiewski: The full names and titles of the Panelists will be listed in the chat. and I will introduce each panelists before asking them a question. But first let's let me turn it over to my colleague, Dr. Gigi Gronfall.

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Gigi Gronvall: Hi, everyone! Thank you all for being here to hear about our efforts to improve indoor air quality and the model state. Indoor air quality act



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Gigi Gronvall: indoor air quality is important for everyone. When indoor air is improperly ventilated and filtered and is unhealthy, there is a heightened risk of airborne infections, because aerosol transmission drives the spread of many infectious diseases. Not only sars Cov 2, but also tuberculosis, influenza measles, rhinoviruses and respiratory syncial virus.

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Gigi Gronvall: but the benefits of indoor air quality extend well beyond infectious diseases by reducing exposures to harmful pollutants. Healthy air can reduce the incidence of chronic conditions, like asthma and lower the risk of lung cancer and other cancers.

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Gigi Gronvall: while forest fires and other code red, unhealthy air days are most felt outdoors. Those conditions also lead to worse indoor air quality, because air contaminants can be many times worse inside than outside.

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Gigi Gronvall: Good indoor air leads to better health for individuals, but it also contrib it contributes generally to productivity. Because in numerous studies of K through 12 schools, improving indoor air quality boosted test scores, reduced absences and actually increased staff retention in office buildings. The cognitive benefits of good indoor air have translated to increase productivity, job satisfaction

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Gigi Gronvall: and also retention. Indoor air quality measures can even protect national security in the event of a deliberate chemical or biological release. For example, good indoor air quality within public buildings could immediately save lives.

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Gigi Gronvall: The fact that indoor air quality is so important for health, productivity and security is why this act is so important and why we are talking about it with you today.

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Gigi Gronvall: So now I'm going to turn it over to our chief legal drafter, James Hodge, who is the Peter Hewitt Foundation Professor of law, and then Director, the center for Public Health Law and policy at the Standard Day, O'connor College of Law at Arizona



State University, and then we are very fortunate that he's also contributing scholar to the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. He's going to say a few words about the Model State law. James, over to you.

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00:08:07.110 --> 00:08:16.189

James Hodge: Okay. Gc, thank you so much. And what a great honor and opportunity to join you all here today! Let me show you a few quick slides as I'll be so brief and trying to introduce

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00:08:16.210 --> 00:08:40.849

James Hodge: what you're seeing within the Model act available. Now, of course, on the Johns Hopkins website that we've been working so hard with my colleague, Erica White, and other colleagues of ours within the National Advisory Committee. So listen. One of the things that we've been doing throughout this whole process, as our committee knows and is we're here to present today is studying closely what's already out there on indoor air quality across the United States at the Federal, State and local levels.

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James Hodge: There's a wealth of various different laws out there. In fact, as we survey specific bills even in the last year we've seen nearly 500 different bills across States introduced just in the last year alone related to indoor air quality on all of the specific topics and settings that you're seeing on the right side of your screen. And that's pretty amazing.

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James Hodge: But the reality is none of these bills, collectively or individually, really comprise the sort of breadth and depth of what we're trying to do with this model act. So let me take the opportunity to give you a sense of what's new. What is about this model act that's really reset the legal landscape? It does provide a legal framework and foundation

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James Hodge: for everything we're trying to do in regulatory arenas, through state agencies that can work towards improving indoor air quality within specific public buildings. Now, I'll have a few definitions for you here in just a second. But this is laying the ground of the framework for that sort of regulatory structure within any given state that chooses to adopt and work with it, be a tribal authorities or local governments as well.



00:09:40.030 --> 00:09:51.790

James Hodge: This is, that's a minor, the language of state of the art. Let me be brief and tell you some of the really critical choices our National Advisor, recruiting committee members, made about what it covers and how it goes about it. So, for example.

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00:09:51.830 --> 00:10:05.430

James Hodge: where does the act actually seek to apply the public buildings and select spaces within those public buildings? So like the sort of buildings you're seeing on the left side of your screen and the public spaces within those buildings, like hotel lobbies.

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00:10:05.430 --> 00:10:29.149

James Hodge: but not necessarily hotel rooms or private spaces or exterior spaces attached to buildings or private residences, because of various different privacy concerns and otherwise. We also don't attempt to provide this to industrial buildings. They're already covered under a gamut of other laws at the Federal and State levels. But, to be sure, public buildings of any type within specific jurisdictions covered

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00:10:29.910 --> 00:10:58.629

James Hodge: what are the main Fo side, the Model Act, you know. What is it driven to do? Well, first of all, address, contaminants. How do you rid indoor error of contaminants legally, how was that regulatory structure built? What are the opportunities to do that at a very high level and then doing it through Hvac and refrigeration systems and other techniques. Again, the state of the art language within the act allows for a lot of different changes and regulatory adjustments. As we see, new technologies come along but a heavy focus on that. What the improvement

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James Hodge: can be to the building. It's infrastructure. And it's Hvac systems who benefits

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James Hodge: from this legal infrastructure that we set within the model Act, not quite honestly, as we've defined it. Building occupants. People who come into the building spend either short amount or appreciable amounts of time within that building infrastructure they benefit from day to day. Indoor air quality driven by this specific model act.

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OO:11:24.700 --> OO:11:54.500 James Hodge: How does it work? What is the infrastructure for the act itself. Well, it 700 East Pratt Street · Suite 900 · Baltimore, Maryland 21202 · centerforhealthsecurity.org Office: 443 - 573 - 3304 · Fax: 443 - 573 - 3305



addresses everything you see on the right side of your screen. It does provide some mono guidance. It sets research objectives for how to get closer to what works and doesn't work in indoor air quality. It sets education requirements, testing, monitoring on site and online reporting. It requires assessments by building owners, there will be inspections where necessary, of the building itself, investigations of potential outbreaks, of issues or otherwise within the infrastructure.

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James Hodge: There's real incentives for building owners and others to participate, and yet specific requirements.

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James Hodge: So we talk a little bit about the requirements, versus voluntary and sort of required actions. They act unquestionably provides strong incentives

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James Hodge: for building owners and occupants and others within the infrastructure to literally participate as much as possible in the sort of yeah cleaning indoor air within these particular structures, some of those you're seeing on the left side of your screen.

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James Hodge: But should you think that that's as far as the exact goes. It does have specific requirements, particularly against the backdrop of particular building owners or property owners that do not seek to actually improve indoor or within their infrastructure. State agencies can take additional interventions, require inspections, require investigations, pursue complaints among members of building occupants or the public in that respect.

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James Hodge: So this particular slide just gives you a sense of the sort of escalation of this act, and while we have a really great explanation of all of what the act does in the first few pages of the document you can see online. Now, this is really giving you a sense of how it builds systematically

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James Hodge: towards cleaner air at the very top, as the act sort of effectuates if implemented in a given state, the whole premises, if you do these specific things in relation to what this act lays out in sequential order. We do see future high quality error within public buildings in your jurisdiction, and she's noted all the health



benefits to relate to that. So without further ado, let me turn it back over to our great colleague, Paula.

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Health Security

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00:13:25.870 --> 00:13:42.170

Paula Olsiewski: Thank you, James. Now we're gonna ask our panelists some questions about the Model Law Model Act, including why it's important and what it will do to improve indoor air quality. So I'm gonna start with my colleague, Dr. Richard Brun, senior scholar at the center.

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00:13:42.410 --> 00:13:48.250

Paula Olsiewski: Richard, you've you have analyzed the costs and benefits of the model lacked.

35 00:13:48.420 --> 00:13:50.350 Paula Olsiewski: Can you describe what you found.

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Richard Bruns: Yes, so it's important to remember. This is not a regulation. This is legislation that enables regulation. So we don't know exactly what specific levels of contaminants are going to be set. It does not specify. Eric changes per hour. That's up to a committee of experts that will be convened as defined by the law and up to the State agency. So

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00:14:12.980 --> 00:14:21.250 Richard Bruns: I can't predict exactly what the costs and benefits are going to be of the regulations that a State chooses to enact. but

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Richard Bruns: I have calculated that it will cost about \$4 per person in the State to do the administrative apparatus and regulation of doing the public outreach, setting up the agency, handling complaints, handling inspections, etcetera.

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Richard Bruns: But the main costs and benefits, of course, come from actually improving indoor air quality. So I've calculated what would be reasonable but achievable things that a State would do. We would encourage them to adopt national standards like Ashray, 62.1 or 2 41.



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Richard Bruns: So I'm predicting that if the State does reasonable standards, it's not going to involve a lot of costs on class A or B plus commercial real estate. Most of those higher end buildings should already be in compliance, and won't need to do very much. Aside from

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Richard Bruns: posting the end or air quality. Most of the costs and benefits are going to come from bringing up the lower end of the building to what Ash Ray considers minimum standards. So the cost of that can be considerable.

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Richard Bruns: I briefly estimated that it could be about 30 to a hundred \$20 per person per year in the State. That would be 10 to 40 billion dollars if implemented nationwide.

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Richard Bruns: In contrast, the benefits, as Dr. Gonville talked are extensive, using the standard procedures that the health and human services or EPA would use to monetize the benefits of any regulation.

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00:15:52.620 --> 00:15:56.160 Richard Bruns: We're looking at total benefits of

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Richard Bruns: basically 1,300 to 4,800 per person per year of reasonable steps to increase the air quality in buildings that's increased productivity. Improving Gpa, that's the monetized value of less asthma, less cardiovascular stuff from Pm. 2.5, and the predicted value of fewer infections in the future from covid long covid, etc. So you're looking at benefits that are over 10 times the cost, even on conservative estimates.

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00:16:27.050 --> 00:16:37.430

Paula Olsiewski: Thank you, Richard. Okay. Our next question is for Janet Handel, the president and co-founder of the transplant recipients and immunocompromised patient advocacy group.

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Paula Olsiewski: Janet. What will improved air quality standards, such as mandatory 700 East Pratt Street · Suite 900 · Baltimore, Maryland 21202 · centerforhealthsecurity.org Office: 443 - 573 - 3304 · Fax: 443 - 573 - 3305



carbon dioxide

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. 00:16:46.210 --> 00:16:51.699 Paula Olsiewski: and ventilation standards and monitor mandatory let's see.

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Health Security

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00:16:51.990 --> 00:16:56.530

Paula Olsiewski: that mean for the people who are immune, compromised, and everyone else.

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00:17:00.330 --> 00:17:01.730 Paula Olsiewski: Bennett, you're on mute

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00:17:04.430 --> 00:17:13.179

Janet Handal: sorry guys. We are very excited. The M. And O compromise community about this bill, because we really see this as

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00:17:13.180 --> 00:17:41.779

Janet Handal: something which will enable us to rejoin a more normal, you know life, you know, to go indoors to public spaces right now, our community. It's about 7 million people, you and then add their family members in. It's 70 or 80 million people have really refrained from going to indoor events. So think restaurants think, concerts, movies, etc., because we know we have that image of the Washington post aerosol. You know visualization. We see that we know that.

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00:17:41.800 --> 00:17:52.710

Janet Handal: So this really holds the at the opportunity for us that we can rejoin a more normal life, and and when we enter a building we'll know if it's safe or not, because it'll be posted.

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00:17:53.750 --> 00:18:09.870

Paula Olsiewski: Thank you, Janet, alright. Our next question is for Dr. Sema Banger, principal healthy buildings and communities at the Us. Green Buildings Council Seema. There are many agencies and actors already working on indoor air quality across governments, nonprofits, and industry.

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Paula Olsiewski: Why do we need it? A new law, I mean, what's the gap? What? What do we need to regulate?



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Seema Bhangar: Yes, Paula, there is a lot going on. I've been in this field for 20 plus years. We've been in a good fraction of that together on the research side, and I have never seen such concentrated action. Just in the last 18 months alone, White House issued a clean air challenge ashore.

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Seema Bhangar: you know, driven by people on this. On this call, esteem panelists had a magnificent feat, really of of a new standard. From tip to tail. Cdc. Posted a new ventilation guidance, the significant interagency efforts underway here in my home State of California. And then, of course, in research and green buildings, Usgbc marks its thirtieth anniversary. Here. It's sort of 3 decades

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Seema Bhangar: of work with partners, volunteers. Thank you. To those on this call who are are part of that community to raise the bar set the standard for what a healthy high performance building looks like. So it's not unreasonable to ask, do we need one more thing? What gap will it fill, which is exactly what you ask me, Paula, and you know, in one word, I would answer that question about Gap with the word accountability.

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00:19:21.310 --> 00:19:22.310 Seema Bhangar: and

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Seema Bhangar: whose responsibility is it to manage and maintain indoor air quality in a building, and from my time in commercial real estate I know that the good news is that it's almost everyone's responsibility, almost every function and department. But unfortunately, that can also translate the everyone translates very slippery slope to no one is really required to own it. So you know, in the world of green and healthy buildings, Esg certifications, we incentivize action

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Seema Bhangar: through recognition. But it's still ultimately voluntary. Cdc. White House actions send massive signals that their guidelines and calls to action are not binding. Even Ashrae standards need to be adopted by jurisdictions and integrated into code to be binding, which hopefully, this law will push for that.



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Seema Bhangar: And so I'm excited about this model law as a step, not only toward greater accountability, but also coordinated consistent governance. I think James's presentation really drove that home. I hope for all of you. It drove it home for me. Even

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Seema Bhangar: I got involved and learned about this about. You know, this. This kind of umbrella governance is something that's missing. So I just say in closing indoor air quality is is complex. There's a lot of work to be done. We're just getting started, even though we've been going at it for decades. It feels like we're just getting started. And I'm looking forward to pushing on sort of all the complementary levers and strategies we have together. So thank you for the opportunity to be involved.

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00:20:50.110 --> 00:21:07.409

Paula Olsiewski: Okay, thank you, Sema. Alright. So our our next question is for Dr. Janet Phoenix, how many panels do you have with 2? Janet, we're truly lucky. Who's an assistant research professor at the Millikan Institute of Public Health Department of Health Policy Management at George Washington University.

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Paula Olsiewski: Janet, you've done a lot of work to address environmental lead poisoning, environmental triggers of asthma and communicating those risks

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Paula Olsiewski: as a medical professional. Can you speak a little bit about the impact of poor air on health and communities.

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Janet Phoenix: So thank you for that question, Paula, and thanks very much for the opportunity to to serve on the the advisory committee that helped to put this model legislation together. It's really an important piece of work, and I think it will move us closer to having the same framework for the indoor environment that currently exists for the outdoor environment.

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Janet Phoenix: You know, as a health professional and a a good chunk of my career has focused on environmental diseases that affect children like asthma and lead poisoning. I think we've we've really been made more aware of the impact of the



indoor environment and the potential that has for human health.

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00:22:07.920 --> 00:22:18.610

Janet Phoenix: Certainly, I think the pandemic helped to highlight the importance of adequate ventilation. In reducing the risk to infectious diseases by covid

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Janet Phoenix: but but it's also important, and it's been difficult, I think, to create a framework that helps people to understand that other indoor contaminants. Also have an adverse impact on the health of people in those public spaces inside buildings. It's really, critically important that you have a system in place

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00:22:40.350 --> 00:22:48.520

for buildings that have ventilation systems that that functions adequately to ensure. You know that there's adequate

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00:22:48.520 --> 00:23:11.119

Janet Phoenix: inflow of fresh air, and that contaminants are ventilated to the outside, so that you maintain very low levels of contaminants and improve the health of people who are living in those spaces. So this is critically important, as some of the other panelists have underscored in their remarks is critically important for people who have preexisting illnesses.

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00:23:11.120 --> 00:23:30.640

Janet Phoenix: whether it's an immunocompromise or whether it's a respiratory disease such as asthma, whether it's a cardiovascular disease, but exposure to things in the indoor environment, like particulate matter and other chemical contaminants, as well as the biological things that we can inhale, that make us sick.

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00:23:30.640 --> 00:23:56.069

Janet Phoenix: It really reducing the amount of exposure in public spaces is critically important. And it it's really needed. We need some kind of a standard process that that communities can engage in to create standards across across jurisdictions that make sense and that are health based.

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00:23:56.070 --> 00:24:08.270

Janet Phoenix: And that's really what's been missing, I think, from the conversation. Having standards such as Ashrae to to refer to is is important. But it doesn't have the authority



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00:24:08.270 --> 00:24:32.370

Janet Phoenix: and it doesn't really require that building owners and managers implement a consistent set of provisions to improve indoor air quality. So that's what I think this model legislation could can accomplish. I'm certainly hoping that it accomplishes that and I'm hoping that that legislators across the nation really embrace this opportunity to to use the good work.

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00:24:32.370 --> 00:24:44.389

Janet Phoenix: That that we've put in place for them. So that it's really just baby steps to get to the goal of healthy indoor environments for all in public spaces.

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00:24:45.790 --> 00:25:00.299

Paula Olsiewski: Thank you, Janet, all right. Our next question is for Dr. Bill Bondfleth, professor of Architectural engineering at the Penn State University, and a Fellow of Ashrae, and who who led Ashrae's effort to develop the new Standard

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00:25:00.870 --> 00:25:07.159 Paula Olsiewski: Bill? What are the most important deficiencies in existing building. IQ regulations.

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00:25:07.270 --> 00:25:12.979 Paula Olsiewski: that this knack? That for the that. Why this act is needed.

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00:25:13.700 --> 00:25:16.700 Bill Bahnfleth: Yeah, thank you, Paul, and very

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00:25:16.830 --> 00:25:38.870

Bill Bahnfleth: pleased to have been invited to participate in this program and to have been on the Advisory Committee as the act was was developed. I think it does address what I consider to be the the biggest problem that we have, and that is that there's really little or no regulation of of buildings once they're designed and and constructed.

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Bill Bahnfleth: and and to go back to what Sima was saying, which put me in mind of something that my my late friend, Jim Woods, used to talk about all the time was not just accountability, but but continuous



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Bill Bahnfleth: accountability. That was a term you used all the time, and that's the problem we have. There's no transfer of accountability from those who design and construct buildings to those who live in them later, and, as we all know, as soon as you stop paying attention to maintaining the condition of a building. It deteriorates.

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00:26:11.420 --> 00:26:17.149

Bill Bahnfleth: Why, why is this model that going to help us get around that? Well, it. It

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00:26:17.560 --> 00:26:40.499

Bill Bahnfleth: gives States a way to set up the the mechanism within which to to do that kind of of monitoring the regulation. It talks about measurement and disclosure and mitigation of problems. That's that's exactly what we need. And and I think it'll have a tremendous impact going forward. I think that although I'd like to see uniform

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00:26:40.500 --> 00:27:08.869

Bill Bahnfleth: national standards, and we have standards like those ashtray has developed. My impression over a long period of time has been that the most effective place to act is at the state level or the municipal level. So I think, in an odd way, by by targeting states. With this act. It creates a way for these national model standards like Ashrae, 62, one, and 2 41 to to be adopted

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00:27:08.990 --> 00:27:16.969

Bill Bahnfleth: more widely. So I think it's it's a very important step forward. And just to to close with one more thought. I've always felt that.

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00:27:17.000 --> 00:27:29.600

Bill Bahnfleth: you know, to to have action on issues like this. You need to have science behind it. We've had that for decades. You need to have the public behind it. We now do that. That hasn't been there

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Bill Bahnfleth: for a while, and yet that's not enough by itself. The third leg of the stool is having an effective way for those who are involved in governance to get things done. And I think this is maybe the the tool that will provide that final leg that we really need to to see a lot of really effective action to thank you.



00:27:51.220 --> 00:28:06.780

Paula Olsiewski: Thank you, Bill. Alright. So our next question is for Dr. Marwas Atari, who's a member of the Board of Directors of the Us. Green Building council. Marwa, how does improved indoor air quality affect other things? We care about, including energy, carbon and cost.

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00:28:07.780 --> 00:28:32.389

Marwa Zaatari: Hi, Paul! And Hi! Everyone! Thank you for including me. I echo what everyone else said on this call. So when we talk about indoor air quality. Today there are 2 recurring topics, energy efficiency and decarbonization. And it happens so that the traditional method to improve indoor quality is energy intensive, and there is a misconception that to decarbonize building we have to spend

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Marwa Zaatari: much more energy, and therefore decarbonization and IQ are in direct conflicts, and I believe that this misconception halted the improvement of indoor air quality throughout the last decades 150.

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Marwa Zaatari: But what we have learned during the pandemic and also during the wildfire that are becoming seasonal is that we must improve indoor quality. But we must do to do that in an energy efficient way. And also we must improve our resiliency to outdoor air pollution.

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00:29:00.040 --> 00:29:10.920

Marwa Zaatari: If we improve indoor quality with this regard to energy and carbon, it's not gonna meet our emission reduction goal. And somehow it's gonna come back to hurt us through more outdoor air pollution.

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00:29:11.070 --> 00:29:13.410 Marwa Zaatari: Now, the legal techniques

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Marwa Zaatari: authorized by this act provides a lot of flexibility to embrace approaches that are less energy intensive, and according from the act we talk about ventilation, filtration, air, cleaning, and human occupancy, and you know. Ashley, Standard 2, 41. The newly published standard introduces concepts through equivalent clean air. So we don't care what's coming for what's coming from. We care. That is actually clean air. And that way, project team users building owners can focus on less energy intensive.



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00:29:42.000 --> 00:29:53.299

Marwa Zaatari: And what meets their, you know, practical situation cost energy and carbon. So IQ and decarbonization are very important trends. And I believe they're gonna remain here for decades.

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00:29:55.480 --> 00:30:11.739

Paula Olsiewski: Thank you, Marwa, alright. So now we turn to a very exciting part of our program is that we're gonna turn to questions from our viewers, and 2 of my colleagues, Alex, Zoo and Erin Fink are, gonna read the questions from the audience, and then I'm

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00:30:11.820 --> 00:30:18.070

Paula Olsiewski: I people are. Gonna then someone on the panel will take the question. So

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00:30:18.330 --> 00:30:21.100 Paula Olsiewski: okay, Erin. I see you're you're here first.

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00:30:21.410 --> 00:30:32.309 Erin Fink: Yes. Hello. So our first question is, what are the top barriers preventing the act from moving to regulatory State from Model Act

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00:30:32.430 --> 00:30:38.199 State, can we create incentive programs for the construction industry standardized across.

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00:30:38.220 --> 00:30:49.319 Erin Fink: standardized across private and public sector? And we seem to know all of the pain points and or root causes. But have we arrived at strategic scenarios at this point?

105 00:30:50.670 --> 00:31:00.139 Paula Olsiewski: Well, that's that. Seems to be about 3 questions. Alright who wants to take a stab at this. So II hope some of the people who know



Paula Olsiewski: think about construction. Maybe I don't know Bill Marwa seema.

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00:31:05.870 --> 00:31:14.010

Bill Bahnfleth: Well, well, let me just say that money is, you know, always a factor, and interair quality is is one of the the classic split incentive

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00:31:14.100 --> 00:31:32.349

Bill Bahnfleth: problems that we have. We know there are huge benefits, but those who benefit or not necessarily those who pay. And I think that's another thing that the needs to be dealt with, and that that could be a barrier, because states may say, this is really a good thing. But how are we going to

109

00:31:32.370 --> 00:31:35.240 Bill Bahnfleth: to deal with the financial implications of it.

110

00:31:36.980 --> 00:31:53.980

Paula Olsiewski: But I think it's important to note that the way the Model Act has been designed is, it states, can develop incentives for that. Alright. So I'm not sure we got the entire question, cause it was complicated, as did we miss that. How many parts did we, Miss Aaron.

111

00:31:55.150 --> 00:31:59.050 Erin Fink: is there, I guess.

112

00:32:00.010 --> 00:32:18.519

Erin Fink: incentive potential incentives that we can cover and what strategic scenarios to implement from model act to state implementation. So it's up to the States to come up with with the incentives. And and again, States do things differently. You know.

113

00:32:18.600 --> 00:32:35.020

Paula Olsiewski: California is not Texas is not Pennsylvania is not Nevada. So that's important. And I think we have not sort of developed specific scenarios yet. But if that's helpful, our team can work on that.

114

00:32:36.420 --> 00:32:49.250

Richard Bruns: Alright! What's the next? There's a couple of questions about incentives, so James can tell more about this, but the scope of the model law is limited 700 East Pratt Street - Suite 900 - Baltimore, Maryland 21202 - centerforhealthsecurity.org



to the regular authority authority.

115

00:32:49.430 --> 00:33:15.050

Richard Bruns: We understand that when it's passed at the State level there will be changes politicking other things attached to it, and we would understand that there might be a separate law packaged with this that would provide funding incentives, especially for small businesses. Minority owned businesses that might be affected by this. That's beyond the scope of our law. But we would encourage. Given the huge benefits

Center for

Health Security

116

00:33:15.050 --> 00:33:29.189

Richard Bruns: that are gained by members of the population, it would make sense that some tax money be used to help out with this. And James can talk more, I guess, about why we chose to specifically limited and not talk about that part, but we wanted to keep things tight.

117

00:33:31.770 --> 00:33:50.830

James Hodge: Do you want me to address that, Paul? Or do you want to additional questions? So listen, Richard right. One of the things about the Model Act that I really love is how much our National Advisory Committee saw the opportunity for incentives for building owners and others to comply and to work with it. So we drafted it in. You'll see it specifically within articles of the act itself.

118

00:33:50.830 --> 00:34:09.960

James Hodge: Tax incentives that provide real reasons for building owners to comply reasons related to timing. If you do your own advance assessment of the building and indoor air quality, you're gonna avoid things later, like inspections and investigations and complaints. There's issues related, for example, the liability protections that are there. If you do the right things in advance

119

00:34:09.960 --> 00:34:27.599

James Hodge: as an incentive to compliance in relation to the act overall. You're gonna see provisions in there that accomplish that. All driven towards trying to keep the fiscal notes around what might be an impact of an act of this nature down to the fullest degree we can to receive hopefully better implementation of the State legislative level.

120 00:34:27.980 --> 00:34:31.090 Paula Olsiewski: Thank you. All right, Erin. What's next?





00:34:31.480 --> 00:34:37.560

Erin Fink: Next? Does the model bill establish allowable levels for contaminants of concern?

122

00:34:39.199 --> 00:34:41.089 Paula Olsiewski: Stephen, do you want to take that one.

123

00:34:43.300 --> 00:34:58.169

Seema Bhangar: I'll give it a stab, and then James and Richard, the team can can step in to correct any any inaccuracies, so it does not. The the point is that it's a it's a structure for governance, and that

124

00:34:58.190 --> 00:35:00.859 Seema Bhangar: specifics like that would be worked out

125

00:35:01.440 --> 00:35:13.050

Seema Bhangar: in the step where it's transferred into a regulation. And and so at the state level. So it's establishing a a structure and a process to get there. Without specifying that.

126

00:35:13.050 --> 00:35:35.829

James Hodge: Yeah, see me, you're right, and what I love about it is that it creates an infrastructure to do that that's more sophisticated than you're seeing in a lot of existing jurisdictions. There's an actual Advisory Council that will inform a State regulatory agency pre identified by the Legislature. That Council will provide the type of guidance. It's based on what we're seeing through Ashrae and Cdc. And who and other places to set

127

00:35:35.830 --> 00:35:48.159

James Hodge: what those contaminant levels would be sufficient for a particular jurisdiction. And while we're seeing and predict a lot of uniformity across those particular definitions. It is something that we need very much up to the expertise in a given jurisdiction.

128 00:35:51.880 --> 00:35:53.700 Paula Olsiewski: Did you want to add to that, Marwa?



Marwa Zaatari: Yes, yes. So I wanted to say that if you go to the definition of contaminant or contamination, there is basically references to cognizant authorities, including Ashley. And if you look click on the links

130

00:36:07.030 --> 00:36:33.230

Marwa Zaatari: that it basically mentioned that can help in the definition. For example, there's reference to Ashley, Standard 6, 2, one, where this establish contam contaminant list, 14 of them between gas particles and the you know, organics and in organic. So I just wanted to point to that, although we don't have a table. And you say, follow this, there's a lot of flexibility. But there is, you know, some more guidance where to go to look for these contaminants.

131

00:36:33.600 --> 00:36:36.690 Paula Olsiewski: All right. Well, thank you. All right. What's next? Erin

132

00:36:37.480 --> 00:36:46.829

Erin Fink: next? For state ad adoption! Are there key pieces that should not be omitted? That is a minimum requirement for the model law?

133

00:36:47.340 --> 00:37:08.029

James Hodge: Would you like me to handle that? To start, Paul, and then we'll yes, please, James. Oh, yeah, we have discussed this with the National Advisory Committee so many different ways and times, and I'm just gonna provide what I think is a general consensus statement that we've heard and repeatedly tried to try to suggest.

134

00:37:08.140 --> 00:37:14.629 James Hodge: This model act introduces for state implementation or tribal governments or local authorities, with sufficient Home Rule

135

00:37:15.190 --> 00:37:19.299 James Hodge: a great menu of options for them to consider.

136

00:37:19.360 --> 00:37:39.199

James Hodge: adopt the entire act, and you know, and all of this provisions. We think that you've done almost everything you can do within constitutional bounds, and otherwise to really address indoor air quality within public buildings at a very high level. But if you were to, sort of, you know, cut down on some of the measures or not, go the full gamut of what you might do for inspections, investigations, or complaints.



137

00:37:39.200 --> 00:37:55.650

James Hodge: you're still gonna have some meaningful provisions. So while there's a menu of legal options, we think that some of the best options will be among States that passes it comprehensively as they can. But the reality is yes, certain provisions could be adopted or not given the States particular legislative direction.

138

00:37:56.170 --> 00:37:59.160 Paula Olsiewski: Thank you. All right. Next question.

139

00:37:59.620 --> 00:38:07.689 Erin Fink: does contaminants include key indoor air pollutants as per indoor air

quality guidelines from WHO. And others.

140

00:38:09.750 --> 00:38:30.970

James Hodge: Well, a simple answer to that is, yes, it does. This is not just about as Gigi was talking about, not just about, you know, various infectious diseases. That's a premier feature of what we're working toward. It's about a lot of different contaminants. I think Mara did a great job of saying that's got flexibility in it to have let that list change over time as we see those contaminants change over time.

141

oo:38:31.740 --> 00:38:34.719 Paula Olsiewski: Thank you. All right, Erin. What's next?

142

00:38:39.160 --> 00:38:43.279 Erin Fink: What testing and monitoring of contaminants will be required.

143

00:38:49.100 --> 00:38:51.810 Paula Olsiewski: I I'll take that one like

144

00:38:52.310 --> 00:38:59.250 Paula Olsiewski: once the State establishes the infrastructure where they have an agency and a committee

145

00:38:59.340 --> 00:39:06.340 Paula Olsiewski: to oversee the regulation of indoor air quality in the States. It will be up to the States to



146

00:39:06.430 --> 00:39:17.779 Paula Olsiewski: this committee to determine what contaminants they want to regulate. Marwa gave us a long list from Ashraise document.

147 00:39:17.810 --> 00:39:19.400 Paula Olsiewski: There are.

148

00:39:19.940 --> 00:39:27.410 Paula Olsiewski: So it it the State that's up to the States to determine what contaminants as

149

00:39:27.710 --> 00:39:39.080 Paula Olsiewski: from my biochemist perspective, I would like to see carbon dioxide. I'd like to see. Pm. Twofive at a minimum.

150 00:39:39.250 --> 00:39:42.530 Paula Olsiewski: The measured and monitored.

151

00:39:42.690 --> 00:39:50.779 Paula Olsiewski: The other very important part. Is that, then, to have the results displayed in the building as

152

00:39:50.960 --> 00:40:01.889 Paula Olsiewski: Janet Handle was saying, you know her community is really at risk. They don't respond to vaccines. They have all these underlying health problems.

153

00:40:02.150 --> 00:40:10.380 Paula Olsiewski: Is it safe for them to go indoors? And so, if this information. So the States need to determine what they what they're gonna regulate.

154

00:40:10.430 --> 00:40:20.080

Paula Olsiewski: The buildings will then make those measurements using sensors and so on. And then they will post the information. These is sort of like the the meet and making



Paula Olsiewski: invisible what is invisible, visible to the community.

156

00:40:26.020 --> 00:40:50.589

James Hodge: Oh, that's a really nice explanation. What the act does. And I love it because it's it's so impactful to know that you're gonna finally get real information when you walk in, or if you want to check it on the website, there's website related posting requirements. We're suggesting that state agencies can do. And just if you're on the other side of it, you know, just concerned about how much monitoring are you gonna have to do as a building owner? Such. We also have a provision in there that a State regulatory agency

157

00:40:50.590 --> 00:41:18.150

James Hodge: or it's Advisory Council could use to say, we're going to require proxy tests, text tests that give us enough information to say your indoor air quality is sufficient for these particular purposes, based on the level of risk that you're building poses. So the acts got that built into it as well to hopefully make that sort of testing as routine and regular as possible without being so terribly expensive in relation to what could be done. So a lot of neat opportunities and flexibility, as Mar was mentioned as well.

158

00:41:18.350 --> 00:41:27.670

Paula Olsiewski: Okay, thank you. All right. Our next question. We have a distinct group. I don't want to limit the discussion.

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00:41:27.670 --> 00:41:50.100

Seema Bhangar: Just a just a Echo Bill's point. I really loved it about not just accountability, but continuous accountability. So you know, so often we, we put a lot of thought into what we should monitor and measure, and not the when. And I think the when is really important. And you know, we we already have systems in place to reactively monitor. And that's not

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00:41:50.100 --> 00:41:57.549

Seema Bhangar: where the state of the science and technology is. It's it's much easier now to proactively monitor

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00:41:57.550 --> 00:42:15.019

Seema Bhangar: than it ever has been before. And so you know, the time is right to do it. It it and it it. So I just wanna say that as well, that I what I see is a real what I would hope that this is a a kind of favorite piece of the act. Model act in my book is the



162

00:42:15.290 --> 00:42:42.050

Bill Bahnfleth: that it would stimulate proactive monitoring, stimulate, incentivize. And you know that would be a really big step forward. I had just A brief add on, too. I think that the subtext is some of these questions about what should we measure? Go back to do. We actually understand what the key components are of of error that contribute to to good indoor air quality.

163

00:42:42.050 --> 00:43:04.189

Bill Bahnfleth: What 15 things at the end of air quality procedure that's not gonna measure 15 things in in every building. And what we really need is is to have have a law like this where we're now talking about actually enforcing things drive us towards identifying that handful of things that are are the ones that are present and cause harm in

164

00:43:04.190 --> 00:43:12.100

Bill Bahnfleth: in most buildings. I'd like to see a set of contaminants that ought to be measured. That's as small as the the ones in the

165

00:43:12.100 --> 00:43:21.430

Bill Bahnfleth: national ambient air quality standards. It's a good aspiration to have, you know, just a handful of them, and I think we can can get there and then. We now have more motivation to do it.

166

00:43:22.000 --> 00:43:51.200

Janet Handal: And and Paula, I just wanna chime in here also, and and say that the the importance of of making the monitoring visible and public, so that that people who want to know how safe a space is before they decide whether or not to stay, or they can take their mask off, and you know that it really needs to be in a place where people can see it in order for it to really be, I think meaningful for, for you know, for all of us.

167

00:43:52.520 --> 00:43:55.619

Paula Olsiewski: Thank you. Alright. We'll move on to our next question.

168

00:43:56.430 --> 00:44:02.229 Erin Fink: What was the rationale of crafting a State level focused legislation rather than Federal.

169 00:44:03.410 --> 00:44:22.470 700 East Pratt Street · Suite 900 · Baltimore, Maryland 21202 · centerforhealthsecurity.org Office: 443 - 573 - 3304 · Fax: 443 - 573 - 3305



James Hodge: Would you like me to chime in on that? Okay, the rationale is, where is the Federal version of this? We haven't seen it yet, although the by the Administration's move closer to that than we've seen in prior years, and we actually have seen over a long decades period of time. The Federal Government show interest in this through ocean, through other arenas.

170 00:44:22.920 --> 00:44:24.640 James Hodge: but it's just flat out, lacking.

171

00:44:24.710 --> 00:44:45.839

James Hodge: and consequently states, with their broad authority, to do a lot of things in the interest of the public health and general welfare, have sufficient authority to regulate here. They're not preempted by the Feds in relation to it, and it's just the right time to introduce model legislation at the State level that they can take and run with and hopefully see greater uniformity in absence of Federal register legislation or regulation

172

00:44:45.860 --> 00:44:51.179

James Hodge: which could be forthcoming in the future. But right now this model State law fills that gap nicely.

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00:44:52.040 --> 00:44:54.630 Paula Olsiewski: Thank you. Aaron Mitts.

174

00:44:56.210 --> 00:45:07.799

Erin Fink: is the plan to implement for only new buildings, if not, how long will older buildings have to come up to code, and how much is the expected cost to convert all buildings to meet code

175 00:45:09.360 --> 00:45:10.320 Paula Olsiewski: all right. Who

176 00:45:10.750 --> 00:45:14.110 Paula Olsiewski: any volunteers to get started on this one.

177

00:45:14.220 --> 00:45:21.570 Bill Bahnfleth: though this is just speculation. I think it has to apply to to to all buildings. If we only apply something like this to new buildings.



178

00:45:21.600 --> 00:45:44.470

Bill Bahnfleth: it'll be our great grandchildren who probably see it being effective. Right? So we we have to to apply a model law like this to all buildings, but with due consideration for what's possible in existing buildings. And we've had these discussions before in the context of of other standards discussions. So you just have to set reasonable targets right to look at what New York City is doing with energy

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00:45:44.490 --> 00:45:52.220

Bill Bahnfleth: right now are rating all of those buildings, and they'll have to do something to comply eventually. I think we should use that analogy.

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00:45:52.390 --> 00:45:55.509 James Hodge: Great point, Bill, and that's exactly what the act does.

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00:45:55.550 --> 00:46:00.480 James Hodge: It's not just about new buildings, not what's going up in the next century. It's what's in place right now.

182

00:46:00.820 --> 00:46:26.140

James Hodge: with some exceptions, for some types of buildings, as I mentioned earlier, like Industrial Bill, industrial buildings and otherwise. But the reality is based on state set levels via regulatory agencies and compliance with their IQ compities. They're going to set high and medium and risk levels for various different types of indoor air quality and seek compliance among building owners to reach those particular targets.

183

00:46:26.190 --> 00:46:50.459

James Hodge: and then, as a neat aside as a need incentive to you, reach those targets as a building owner. You're gonna get something like lead certified status. We don't use obviously lead. That's a different context. But we'll assess a status that you can then use to attract tenants or track others within your building. Noting you've met indoor air quality standards at a high level. So that's exactly what we expect for for existing buildings and forthcoming ones, too.

184

00:46:51.090 --> 00:47:20.970

Gigi Gronvall: I'd like to just chime in here a little bit. And during the Covid response, Baltimore city public schools. Which have, you know, some of the buildings are quite old. Over well, over 100 years old. In many cases. They would want to do something to



make the indoor air safer to prevent disease transmission. And so that ended up being air purifiers put in every single classroom. So when there are different types of mitigation depending on on what you're trying to achieve.

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00:47:22.410 --> 00:47:45.400

Seema Bhangar: Thank you. I chime in quickly to just say, there's a third category. We have new, we have existing. And there's renovations. And I think I saw a statistic. I think it was international energy agency that we expect we need 20 of the global building stock. I hope I'm not miss quoting this to to be retrofit to meet our decarbonization goals. And so

186

00:47:45.400 --> 00:47:55.749

Seema Bhangar: you know, as we push toward just tomorrow's great points, too, about needing to do this together. Now, we're not in a space anymore where where we're gonna manage climate

187

00:47:55.760 --> 00:48:17.530

Seema Bhangar: mitigation, adaptation and resilience and health indoors separately. And so it's a really good time, I think, for for a governance structure, because we're going to be retrofitting these buildings, and it would be a real lost opportunity to to do it, and and then not, you know, not take care of of indoor air quality at the same time.

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00:48:18.440 --> 00:48:20.479 Paula Olsiewski: Alright! Thank you. Next question.

189

00:48:21.270 --> 00:48:30.470

Erin Fink: in your view, what factors might contribute to the effectiveness and acceptance of such an incentive program by both private and public sectors.

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00:48:33.000 --> 00:48:45.619

James Hodge: Paul, would you like me to provide a quick opening, and then we'll hear from others on this, please thought this through like a lot in making key judgments and choices about the legislative language that you're seeing in the Model Act itself.

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00:48:46.050 --> 00:49:10.960

James Hodge: And we're obviously aware of some potential resistance to some of these measures, of course, and to be sure, there's going to be politics and fiscal related implications, and all of that is something the committee and I think we, as drafters,



took into great great stock. But the reality is consistent with what we're selling, and Gg. Noted so nicely. The public health signs here, and the public health knowledge for the 20 first century

192

00:49:11.030 --> 00:49:16.809 has revealed this sort of new focus on indoor air quality as a premier objective.

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00:49:16.830 --> 00:49:41.179

James Hodge: Consequently, I believe what you're gonna start to see is that states that pick up and run with you more advanced indoor air quality laws will see the public health and health benefits as Richard talks about, and other States will follow along those lines, even against some backdrop, and resistance to it for costs and other purposes, simply stated, it's as easy as this. These indoor air quality laws, we think, will be efficacious and will work well to improve the health of populations

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00:49:41.180 --> 00:49:54.139

James Hodge: and building owners, seeking the very best tenants and very best opportunities ahead for their structures, will find compliance to be far more advantageous and economically viable than, conversely, I think that's defensible. We shall see over the years.

195 00:49:54.360 --> 00:49:56.370 Paula Olsiewski: Alright. Thank you, James.

196 00:49:57.880 --> 00:49:59.510 Paula Olsiewski: All right. Next question.

197

00:50:01.270 --> 00:50:11.330

Erin Fink: Apologies. I lost. I just see the number, and there are lots of questions. I'm not sure we can get through all of them.

198

00:50:11.340 --> 00:50:16.369

Erin Fink: The next question is, how are you hoping to disseminate the Model Act to states?

199 00:50:18.600 --> 00:50:20.489 Paula Olsiewski: Gigi, do you want to take this one?



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00:50:21.910 --> 00:50:30.279

Gigi Gronvall: Sure, the first step is today? That we are unveiling the act. And and we're hoping to engage with

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00:50:30.480 --> 00:50:55.080

Gigi Gronvall: interested groups all over the States to be able to implement. So we are hoping to build out our resources to help people who are interested in getting this implemented States. We are looking to to focus on on the States that that are you know that we can get all the the actors who are interested to get this implemented. And this is not a

202

00:50:55.080 --> 00:51:19.899

Gigi Gronvall: august 2023. Only event we are in here for the long haul, and it's going to take some time to make sure that everybody realizes that you know everybody deserves healthy air to breathe, and there are things that the Government can do to help make that happen. So we are hoping to provide resources for States that are interested for legislators that are interested in doing and implementing this

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00:51:20.010 --> 00:51:26.169

Gigi Gronvall: and and case studies. We hope in the future to to make it easier for for future action.

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00:51:27.910 --> 00:51:47.899

Richard Bruns: There's a similar question. Can we be connected to whoever else is thinking and working at this? And yes, we would encourage. If you want to work on this. If you are a motivated individual, especially if you have any connections with advocacy, groups or other people who, you know, have lobbying efforts, please contact us. We would love to be the hub to

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00:51:47.900 --> 00:51:59.199

Richard Bruns: connect you with other people, to coordinate stuff. We do have a political team and a political strategy that's working on, which states, we think makes Mo makes the most sense to introduce this into first.

206

00:51:59.250 --> 00:52:06.670

Richard Bruns: But we would love to talk with you or any other potential allies and connect y'all with each other. So we can work on the politics of this together.



00:52:07.970 --> 00:52:21.869

Paula Olsiewski: And I'd also like to chime in. We, you know, we really need a whole series of of partners in this, just you know, other groups. It could be from, you know, industry academia

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00:52:21.870 --> 00:52:47.830

Paula Olsiewski: nonprofits people who work in indoor air quality. Again, we need a broad coalition of partners, because I think the time is right. The public is starting to understand the importance of indoor air quality. So II think that you know. But again we we at the You know Johns Hopkins Center for health security cannot do this alone. We can only do this with partners.

209

00:52:50.930 --> 00:52:52.669 Paula Olsiewski: But Erin, next question.

210

00:52:53.800 --> 00:53:00.710

Erin Fink: how does the model act fit with existing FDA and EPA. Regulations around inactivating pathogens.

211

00:53:04.050 --> 00:53:20.060 Erin Fink: Are there any inhibitions? Provisions of FDA and Fi. F. Ra. May inhibit improvements advocated in this act? Do we have any concerns. All right. So one of the things about this act is that it does not

212 00:53:20.110 --> 00:53:23.700 Paula Olsiewski: specify particular

213 00:53:24.020 --> 00:53:26.470 Paula Olsiewski: technologies.

214

00:53:27.010 --> 00:53:41.370

Paula Olsiewski: And the I know there's a lot of work going on, both, you know, in the government and outside to Tai, test the safety and efficacy of various

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00:53:41.610 --> 00:53:54.930

Paula Olsiewski: technologies. And some we're gonna have. And I hope we have some new technologies that make it cheaper and easier and faster to get to clean indoor air. And I hope that



216 00:53:55.010 --> 00:53:57.870 Paula Olsiewski: nobody uses things that do not work.

217 00:53:58.370 --> 00:54:02.419 Paula Olsiewski: So the but what's important is, the States

218 00:54:02.500 --> 00:54:04.230 Paula Olsiewski: have the ability

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00:54:04.320 --> 00:54:13.469 Paula Olsiewski: to there, once they, you know, adopt the infrastructure, then their regulatory system. But we did, we did not.

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00:54:13.690 --> 00:54:25.000 Paula Olsiewski: Is, for example, in a very promising new technology is the far UV. But we don't specify that particular technology. But again, it's

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00:54:25.040 --> 00:54:28.880 Paula Olsiewski: it's, you know, again, states will determine what what they want.

222

00:54:29.580 --> 00:54:54.479

Bill Bahnfleth: Does anyone else want to say anything on on that technical side. There, I'll just say that this, the the act, should be like a A. A magnet for Sdos. Is that do that. We. We know that we have needs for development of standards to define the effectiveness and safety of of done ventilation technologies that could give us good air quality with low energy use. And you see that in

223

00:54:54.480 --> 00:55:04.680

Bill Bahnfleth: in as for Standard 2 41, that this may be the first standard of its kind to be code enforceable that actually tries to to establish criteria for qualifying

224 00:55:04.740 --> 00:55:08.489 Bill Bahnfleth: air cleaners. And and we had input to that from



Bill Bahnfleth: EPA and and others. So I think the the a lot of things will develop around

Center for

Health Security

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00:55:15.100 --> 00:55:20.270 Bill Bahnfleth: State laws to help support them. So it's one more benefit of doing this. Now.

227

00:55:21.200 --> 00:55:25.089 Paula Olsiewski: thank you. Anybody else want to comment or move on to the next question.

228

00:55:29.890 --> 00:55:44.850 Erin Fink: okay, is there? What contact info should. Interested organizations or individuals use to follow up about the partnership and supporting them. Implementation of the act.

229

00:55:45.720 --> 00:56:07.629

Gigi Gronvall: So it will be put in the chat right now. But one contact information, one email address that you can use to to reach us is a capital letters, MSIA. QA. At Jh. Edu, so, and Andrew just put it in the chat. So please contact us, and we are happy to work with you.

230 00:56:09.530 --> 00:56:11.289 Paula Olsiewski: Okay, thank you. Great. Next.

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00:56:11.470 --> 00:56:16.980 Erin Fink: next, will we be creating advisory committees to help States implement

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00:56:20.180 --> 00:56:26.340 Paula Olsiewski: each. Each State will create their own advisory committee and the Model Act.

233 00:56:26.360 --> 00:56:32.400 Paula Olsiewski: Gives a lot of language around this, and in terms of

234 00:56:33.060 --> 00:56:39.910 Paula Olsiewski: who who might be on the committee, the Indoor Air Quality Advisory 700 East Pratt Street · Suite 900 · Baltimore, Maryland 21202 · centerforhealthsecurity.org Office: 443 - 573 - 3304 · Fax: 443 - 573 - 3305



Committee, and and so on. But States will.

235

00:56:40.100 --> 00:56:44.109

Paula Olsiewski: States will do things in a variety of ways around this. But

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00:56:44.150 --> 00:56:55.450

James Hodge: and, James, do you want to say anything about that? Yeah, that's a very fair point. We recognize the autonomy and interest of States and their own jurisdiction to utilize these sort of measures within the model act

Center for

Health Security

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00:56:55.450 --> 00:57:19.890

James Hodge: as they see fit. And along the way they're gonna we suggest actually going to create sort of a scamming committee of experts and others that we actually lay out like, here are some of the types of persons you should maybe consider putting on your committee. Those gonna be political choices we defer to. You know how state legislatures and governors make those particular decisions. I wouldn't think there'd be like a standing expert committee outside of the State that's making those choices

238

00:57:19.910 --> 00:57:36.450

James Hodge: with your regulatory agency. It's meant to be a state driven process. But the language of the act again ties you to the best science, the best available information, the most efficacious treatments and efforts to actually address indoor quality, and we would expect an in a committee and regulatory agency to follow suit.

239

00:57:37.820 --> 00:57:43.579 Paula Olsiewski: Thank you alright. So I think we have time for one more question before we do the wrap up.

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00:57:44.100 --> 00:57:58.250

Erin Fink: How do we see the model legislation being used to set standards for schools or other buildings that do not have mechanical air handling systems? Are there specific elements of the law that will help?

241

00:57:58.890 --> 00:58:05.170 James Hodge: May I offer a quick answer on that, and look forward to anyone else with additional expertise in the school setting.



James Hodge: What I like about the act a lot is the flexibility it gives the States to make determinations about what type of risk your particular building presents, and then how to address those risks. This is not a one. Size fits all a school building. Better be able to do, what a modern office tower does. It really is about what type of building we're working with, what's the risk to persons? What are the available options

243

00:58:27.170 --> 00:58:32.260

James Hodge: and then tailoring how to improve indoor air quality within all of those levers

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00:58:32.320 --> 00:58:40.669

James Hodge: that's assessed by State regulatory agency, and then implemented consistently by the building owners and occupants. In some cases that's state of local government itself.

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00:58:40.750 --> 00:58:55.549

James Hodge: That's the level of sophistication. We tried to build into this act, not specification about every building fitting the same model. But buildings being assessed specifically based on what they have available to change and fit to better indoor quality.

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00:58:55.920 --> 00:59:01.300

Paula Olsiewski: Okay. And I just looked at my watch, and I realized we have time for one more question. So, Erin.

247

00:59:03.300 --> 00:59:19.089

Erin Fink: are there any organizations that will be responsible for introducing the model law, which I think we covered a bit. However, I wanted to follow up with the second part of this question, who will keep the pressure on the institutions to make sure they follow through with the implementation.

248

00:59:23.470 --> 00:59:52.409

Bill Bahnfleth: Well, I'm I'm gonna vote for the public. And I think one of the things that I really like in the the model law is the extent to which it it supports education. And back. When we were talking about, how do you get this adopted. That's it, I would say. We need to lead with education, too. I think you see a lot of activity in States now, even prior to the release of of the model law that's being led by, say, concerns school parents in Illinois and other states that we may have talked about. So I think that's



00:59:52.570 --> 00:59:53.779 Bill Bahnfleth: one of the keys.

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00:59:53.900 --> 01:00:18.089

James Hodge: Bill. Good point. And it's not just education for the sake of it. It's education, you know, basically built on improved information because this act also sets parameters for doing active surveillance and assessment and techniques that really work well towards improving indoor air quality. It's about gathering information using that and then building educational approaches. They're meaningful, based on the best science based on the best information.

251 01:00:20.510 --> 01:00:22.179 Paula Olsiewski: All right, I think that

252 01:00:22.610 --> 01:00:25.119 Paula Olsiewski: we've run out of time

253 01:00:25.290 --> 01:00:26.949 Paula Olsiewski: at some point we will

254

01:00:27.080 --> 01:00:37.029

Paula Olsiewski: put a list of questions and frequently asked questions and answers on our website. But we appreciate the question. You know, everybody sent in a question. We appreciate that that

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01:00:37.080 --> 01:00:47.380

Paula Olsiewski: that we we could. We couldn't answer all of them, but we appreciate your interest now. I'm turning it over to Gigi ground. Well, to make the closing remarks, Gigi.

256

01:00:48.260 --> 01:01:12.839

Gigi Gronvall: Thank you. Everyone for attending this webinar today and for future viewers. Thank you for for watching this. And thank you to all of our panelists, and also please check out the actual model State Indoor Air Quality Act, where we have a list of all the experts that helped us with this process. And I wanted to. I didn't answer the last question, because I wanted to to just say in my



Gigi Gronvall: closing, that you know it is up to all of us to to put pressure on on making sure that indoor air good in or is available for for everyone. And this is going to be, not something that's gonna just happen today. We want it. We're this is a long haul project and and we will be putting pressure on on states to to get this done.

258

01:01:36.760 --> 01:02:00.550

Gigi Gronvall: And so should you. And so this is really something that that you know, I see it as a as a public health demand that, you know, we that was made very clear for those of us on the east coast that that experience the Canadian wildfire smoke, and then also during Covid. So so this is a an issue that affects all of us, and

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01:02:00.550 --> 01:02:14.259

Gigi Gronvall: and we're really happy to be working with such great people to get this work done. So thank you so much for attending today, and we look forward to your questions. In the the days and months ahead. Thank you.