

## National

### HR 4855

Drafted and will be introduced to the 107th Congress by John Conyers, Jr. of Michigan, in June, 2002. One of the main features in this Bill is the establishment of a FEMA-like insurance pool that would help pay for testing and remediation of toxic mold in residences. If passed, insurers have NO EXCUSE but to slash premiums as the burden of toxic mold remediation would be placed on this government-backed FEMA-like insurance pool.

The Bill also calls for mandatory testing of government buildings, schools, disclosures for real estate transactions, and directs government agencies to find acceptable exposure limits.

## Arizona

### SB 1432

Would create a legislative study group to consider the financial, environmental and health-related effects of indoor commercial and residential mold contamination.

### SB 1432 Adopted Amendment

Introduced and referred to Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment committee, Health committee and Rules committee 2/6/02. Reported favorably from Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment with amendment 3/14/02. Reported favorably from Rules committee 3/18/02. Amended in Senate Committee of the Whole and sent to third reading 3/21/02. Passed Senate, sent to House 3/25/02. Referred to House Natural Resources and Agriculture, Health and Rules committees 3/27/02. Failed to pass.

## California

### AB 284

AB 284 directs a review panel to review issues related to fungal contamination of indoor environments. (Status: Law Effective 1/1/02)

### SB 662

SB 662 makes technical changes to provisions of state law directing the State Air Resources Board to study environmental conditions (including toxic mold) of portable classrooms. (Status: Law. Effective 1/1/02.)

### SB 732

SB 732 would enact the Toxic Mold Protection Act. (Status: Law Effective 1/1/02)

### SB 1763

Would direct the insurance department to examine availability and adequacy of commercial and residential property coverage for mold damage. Introduced 2/17/02. Referred to Senate Insurance committee 3/7/02. Reported from Insurance committee with amendments, read second time, amended in Senate and referred to Insurance committee 4/9/02.

### SB 1763 Amended:

Reported favorably as amended from Insurance committee 4/22/02. Read second time and amended by full Senate and sent to third reading 4/30/02. Passed Senate 5/23/02 . Referred to Assembly Insurance committee 6/16/02.

SB 2684

AB 2684 Expresses legislative intent to limit liability of school districts for personal injury or wrongful death claims arising from toxic mold on school premises. Introduced 2/22/02.

Connecticut

SB 1265

Would have provided funding for schools to improve indoor environmental quality (including toxic mold.) (Status: Failed to pass.)

Illinois

HB 3440

HB 3440 provides an appropriation to upgrade HVAC systems in a state-run veteran's home. (Status: Law. Effective 7/1/01.)

Indiana

HB 1253

Establishes mold standards and directs the department of health to offer recommendations regarding toxic mold exposure limits. Introduced and referred to the House Public Health committee 1/14/02. Passed House 2/5/02. Referred to Senate Rules and Legislative Procedures committee 2/11/02. Failed to pass.

Maryland

SB 283

Establishes a Task Force on Indoor Air Quality. (Status: Law. Effective 7/1/01.)

Massachusetts

SB 2353

Would authorize a task force to consider toxic mold exposure limits in indoor environments, assess public health risks, and adopt protections, among other things. Introduced and referred to Joint Health Care committee 5/23/02. Heard in committee and eligible for executive session 6/11/02.

Nevada

SB 584

Among other things, authorizes issuance of bonds to finance capital improvements for toxic mold remediation and prevention. (Status: Law. Effective 6/14/01.)

New Jersey

SR 77

A Senate resolution to urge the state to develop methods to help residents identify mold and develop strategies to address it. (Status: Adopted 5/3/01.)

New York

SB 5799

Creates the Toxic Mold Protection Act. Creates a taskforce (including representatives of the insurance industry) to advise the department of health on exposure limits, assessment standards, and remediation. Introduced and referred to Senate Rules committee 10/3/01. Withdrawn from Senate Rules committee and referred to Senate Health committee 1/9/02.

#### AB 10610

AB 10610 Enacts the toxic mold protection act; directs the department of health to convene a task force which shall advise the department on the development of standards with regard to toxic mold; directs the task force to consider the feasibility of adopting permissible exposure limits to mold in indoor environments; requires that the department shall report to the legislature. Introduced and referred to Assembly Health committee 3/26/02.

#### North Carolina

Insurance commish imposed a \$5,000 cap on mold clean up.

#### Pennsylvania

#### SR 171

Would urge the insurance department to create a task force to study the effects of toxic mold. Introduced and referred to Senate Public Health and Welfare committee 3/11/02.

#### SR 171 Amended Version

Reported as amended from Public Health and Welfare committee 6/11/02.

#### HB 2652

Would develop a program to examine and test indoor residential air quality. Would also provide for detection of biological substances, including toxic molds, which could harm human health.

Introduced and referred to House Environmental Resources and Energy committee 5/13/02.

#### Texas

Ironically, legislators in the state with the most mold claims have been silent. However, slowly, legislators are realizing the magnitude of this problem and how insurers have reacted in an irresponsible manner.

As the November, 2002 election heats up, Texans will see once "insurance-loyal" candidates jump ship and introduce legislation designed to rein-in some of the loose insurance cannons and impose rate regulations and stiffer penalties for bad faith and fraud.