



CHANGE THE AIR FOUNDATION

"It's time to put mold and water damage on the same playing field as lead, asbestos, and radon." Brandon Chappo, Director of Public Policy, Change the Air Foundation

Change the Air Foundation's Public Policy Update: Fall 2024

Dear Friends and Fellow Indoor Air Quality Advocates,

Change the Air Foundation has been hard at work fulfilling our Policy Reform Initiative. We have some BIG victories to share with you from the past year!

To date, Change the Air has advocated for meaningful policy reforms for mold and water-damaged indoor environments with organizations, constituent volunteers, legislators, staffers in 20 states!

Our biggest victory occurred this summer at the state level in Illinois. With the help from our courageous and passionate Illinois volunteers, Change the Air Foundation spearheaded [SB 1087, The Mold Remediation Registration Act](#), landmark legislation that will help protect the citizens of Illinois from the dangers of mold exposure in water-damaged buildings.

Specifically, the bill would:

- Requirement for all mold remediators in Illinois to obtain active third-party mold remediation certification and register with the state;
- Mandate the Department of Public Health to establish a comprehensive public awareness campaign to educate the public about the significant threats posed by mold and water damage in indoor environments, emphasizing the importance of proper inspection and remediation to safeguard health

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to our dedicated Illinois policy volunteers—Patrick Lee, Ryan Schnack, and Daniel Khwaja—whose tireless efforts have been vital in advocating for this legislation.

Change the Air Foundation also made the decision to fund a game-changing national [Policy Brief](#) to raise awareness and address this serious public health issue that has been neglected for far too long. We recognized that dampness and mold in homes across the United States significantly impacts health and indoor air quality, yet is frequently overlooked in broader public health conversations. By developing this [Policy Brief](#), we aim to educate the audience on the severity and hidden nature of this issue, which we feel is crucial for driving both understanding and actionable steps that can be taken today to make a lasting impact. Ultimately, this publication intends to bring this hidden health crisis to the forefront, making it a leading priority for public health professionals, researchers and legislators across the country.

At the State level, Change the Air Foundation's advocacy efforts have been directly behind the drafting of mold and indoor air quality-related legislation in 6 states with a total of *eight* bill proposals since our organization was founded in 2022. Those states are Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania, Hawaii, Iowa and Illinois. We're hopeful that our continued outreach to legislators will lead to more successful bill proposals soon.

Every meeting secured is another opportunity for the Foundation to educate policy makers and our Representatives about the severity of mold, damp and water damage, as well as the importance of safe indoor air quality for all.

Change the Air Foundation is here to help you use your voice to help protect our communities. Each of us has the power to make a difference – your voice and experience matters. If you're interested in becoming an advocate in your state, please be sure to contact us via the Volunteer page on our website to set a meeting with us! The link can be found [here](#).

But we need your help to continue to build upon our community's success so far. It is only thanks to generous donations from people like you that we can continue to meet with legislators and government officials to advocate for vital policy reforms to improve indoor air quality standards across the country for us all.

Thank you for your continued support – without you, none of this would be possible.

In health and change,

Brandon Chappo
Director of Public Policy
Change the Air Foundation

To learn more about what the Foundation advocates for and how you can get involved, please visit: <https://changetheairfoundation.org/policy-advocacy/>