

# Why Maintaining the Current Law is a Good Idea

## Prohibiting Schools on Vapor Intrusion Sites is Fiscally Responsible



- Toxic sites are cheap for a reason** but the long-term costs add up, and the costs to prevent exposures fall onto the shoulders of taxpayers.
- An active subslab depressurization system requires at least a **\$75,000-\$100,000** initial investment and **~\$20,000** each subsequent year for indoor air testing.
- Ongoing monitoring by the RI Department of Environmental Management** is also required, another cost that taxpayers must absorb.

## Current Law Protects Kids from Unnecessary Risk of Toxic Exposure

-Because of their smaller size and ongoing development, **kids are at a greater risk** when it comes to exposure to toxics.

-Urban youth face greater risk due to the **cumulative impact of multiple toxic exposures** (lead, indoor & outdoor air pollution) and other health problems disproportionately faced by lower-income families and communities of color.



## Current Law is Consistent with RI Department of Education (RIDE) School Construction Regulations

-Current law is consistent with RIDE's School Construction Regulations (adopted in 2007), but builds on the regulations in two ways:

- Creates a **public involvement process** for any contaminated site
- Prohibits schools from certain sites** that require overly-expensive monitoring and unreliable long-term maintenance.

**Don't undermine a widely-supported law**  
that is fiscally sound and protective of kids  
for one school's private benefit.

**OPPOSE H5617 and S520**