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'New and Improved' Energy-Efficiency Bill Is Your Building Polluted?



Energy efficient buildings can deliver up to 20% reductions in energy consumption.

Source: Eco-Business.com



View a larger version of this image, <u>here</u>.

Many buildings have significant air pollution sources. In some cases, it is due to inadequate ventilation. For example, mechanical ventilation systems may not be designed or operated to provide adequate amounts of outdoor air. As a result, there may be an increase in reported health problems similar to the ones illustrated.

Greetings,

After one of the coldest winters in recent memory, many are anticipating warm spring weather! Don't forget to contact <u>Air Temp Heating & Air</u> <u>Conditioning, Inc.</u> to prep your HVAC system before the temperatures heat up. A preventive HVAC maintenance program is a good investment as it could save you thousands of dollars.

'NEW AND IMPROVED' ENERGY-EFFICIENCY BILL

A revised version of a bill aimed at boosting energy efficiency in commercial and residential properties as well as federally-owned buildings debuted late February. The provisions range from incentives for energy-savings retrofits in schools and low-income housing projects to a program that boosts energy efficiency in commercial properties.

According to estimates by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, the bill would save \$16.2 billion annually and keep 95 million metric tons of carbon emissions from escaping into the atmosphere by 2030.

Supporters which include a number of Republican and Democrat Senators are confident this version can pass. Learn more by reading the full article, here.



QUESTION: What is measured in determining indoor air quality (IAQ)?

ANSWER: IAQ is assessed by measuring carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, radon, thermal comfort (temperature, relative humidity), surface temperature, ventilation (air flow), particles, and moisture control/mold.

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IS YOUR BUILDING POLLUTED?

Ventilation in a building is often an invisible system - we only notice it when it is not working properly. In fact, in buildings with poor indoor air quality (IAQ), the quality of air can be two to five times more polluted than the air outside. This



can lead to an increase in airborne transmissions of respiratory infections which affect the health and productivity of workers. In addition, excessive ventilation may cause a significant increase in utility costs.

Improper operation and maintenance of HVAC systems is one of the most common problems that impacts workplace indoor air quality. A variety of pollutants and sources of pollutants exist within buildings, such as carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, molds and bacteria, cleaning products, as well as copy machines and printers. Regular maintenance of HVAC system equipment is the key to adequate delivery and quality of building air.

HVAC Maintenance should include:

- Regular cleaning and/or replacing HVAC system filters
- Inspection of outdoor air intakes adjust or repair those that are not working properly
- Inspection of office building exhaust fans dysfunctional fans can create IAQ problems
- Adjustments to HVAC system cycle times as needed

Contact Air Temp Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. to have your HVAC system inspected and a preventive maintenance program designed to ensure the proper functioning of your equipment.

In addition, more information on IAQ can be found through the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**.

GREEN INITIATIVES

ENERGY SMART

COMFORT ZONES