

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6951

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to address lead contamination in school drinking water.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. RUSH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CLAY, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BASS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. LOFGREN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to address lead contamination in school drinking water.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Get the Lead Out of
3 Schools Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SCHOOL TESTING AND NOTIFICATION; GRANT PRO-**
5 **GRAM.**

6 Section 1464 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42
7 U.S.C. 300j–24) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(e) **TESTING AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**
10 **FOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS THAT SERVE SCHOOLS.—**

11 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this
12 subsection, the Administrator shall promulgate a national
13 primary drinking water regulation for school drinking
14 water that—

15 “(1) establishes a lead action level that is not
16 less than the lead action level established by the Ad-
17 ministrator under section 1412(b);

18 “(2) requires each public water system to sam-
19 ple for lead in the drinking water at such schools as
20 the Administrator determines to have a risk of lead
21 in the drinking water at a level that meets or ex-
22 ceeds the lead action level established under para-
23 graph (1); and

24 “(3) in the case of results of sampling under
25 paragraph (2) that indicate that the drinking water
26 of a school contains lead that meets or exceeds the

1 lead action level established under paragraph (1), re-
2 quires the public water system that serves the school
3 to notify the local educational agency that has juris-
4 diction over the school, the relevant local health
5 agencies, the municipality, and the State as soon as
6 practicable, but not later than 5 business days after
7 the date on which the public water system receives
8 the sampling results.

9 “(f) SCHOOL LEAD TESTING AND REMEDIATION
10 GRANT PROGRAM.—

11 “(1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In
12 this subsection, the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

13 “(A) a local educational agency (as defined
14 in subsection (d)(1)); or

15 “(B) a State agency that administers a
16 statewide program to test for, or remediate,
17 lead contamination in drinking water.

18 “(2) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Not later than 1
19 year after the date of enactment of this subsection,
20 the Administrator shall establish a grant program to
21 make grants available to eligible entities to test for,
22 and remediate, lead contamination in school drinking
23 water.

24 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that
2 receives a grant under this subsection may use
3 grant funds—

4 “(i) to recover the costs incurred by
5 the eligible entity for testing for lead con-
6 tamination in school drinking water con-
7 ducted by an entity approved by the Ad-
8 ministrator or the State to conduct the
9 testing; or

10 “(ii) to replace lead pipes, pipe fit-
11 tings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures of
12 any school with drinking water that con-
13 tains a level of lead that meets or exceeds
14 the action level established by the Adminis-
15 trator under subsection (e)(1) with lead
16 free (as defined in section 1417) pipes,
17 pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fix-
18 tures.

19 “(B) LIMITATION.—Not more than 5 per-
20 cent of grant funds accepted under this sub-
21 section shall be used to pay the administrative
22 costs of testing for, or remediation of, lead con-
23 tamination.

1 “(4) GUIDANCE; PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—As a
2 condition of receiving a grant under this subsection,
3 an eligible entity shall—

4 “(A) expend grant funds in accordance
5 with—

6 “(i) the guidance of the Environ-
7 mental Protection Agency entitled ‘3Ts for
8 Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in
9 Schools: Revised Technical Guidance’ and
10 dated October 2006 (or any successor
11 guidance); or

12 “(ii) applicable State regulations or
13 guidance regarding the reduction of lead in
14 drinking water in schools that is not less
15 stringent than the guidance referred to in
16 clause (i), as determined by the Adminis-
17 trator;

18 “(B) make publicly available, including, to
19 the maximum extent practicable, on the Inter-
20 net website of the eligible entity, a copy of the
21 results of any testing for lead contamination in
22 school drinking water that is carried out with
23 funds under this subsection; and

1 “(C) notify parent, teacher, and employee
2 organizations of the availability of the results
3 described in subparagraph (B).”.

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