

ASSEMBLY, No. 4121

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 7, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Benson, Holley, Gusciora, Assemblywoman Murphy,

Assemblyman Conaway, Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblymen

Schaer, Tully and Assemblywoman Swain

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOE and DCF to establish online reporting systems for schools and child care centers to report lead testing results.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/22/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning lead in drinking water at schools and child care
2 centers and supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes
3 and P.L.1983, c.492 (C.30:5B-1 et seq.).
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
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8 1. a. Within one year after the effective date of this act, the
9 Department of Education shall establish an online reporting system
10 that allows a school to submit the results of any tests it has
11 conducted for lead in drinking water and other related information
12 to the department electronically.

13 b. Within 90 days after the establishment of the online
14 reporting system pursuant to subsection a. of this section, any
15 school that was required by law, rule, or regulation, on or after July
16 1, 2016, to test its drinking water for lead shall submit or resubmit
17 its test results and other required information to the department via
18 the online reporting system. The department shall compile the test
19 results and other relevant information on its Internet website for
20 access by the public in an easily-searchable format.
21

22 2. a. Within one year after the effective date of this act, the
23 Department of Children and Families shall establish an online
24 reporting system that allows a child care center to submit the results
25 of any tests it has conducted for lead in drinking water and other
26 related information to the department electronically.

27 b. Within 90 days after the establishment of the online
28 reporting system pursuant to subsection a. of this section, any child
29 care center that was required by law, rule, or regulation, on or after
30 January 1, 2017, to test its drinking water for lead shall submit or
31 resubmit its test results and any other required information to the
32 department via the online reporting system. The department shall
33 compile the test results and other relevant information on its
34 Internet website for access by the public in an easily-searchable
35 format.
36

37 3. Within two years after the effective date of this act, the
38 Department of Education and the Department of Children and
39 Families, in consultation with the Department of Environmental
40 Protection, shall prepare and submit a report to the Governor and,
41 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), the
42 Legislature, outlining the extent of lead contamination in the
43 drinking water of schools and child care centers, the associated
44 need for assistance with remediation activities, and
45 recommendations for how the State could assist schools and child
46 care centers with remediating lead in drinking water. The
47 Department of Education and the Department of Children and
48 Families shall post the report on their respective Internet websites.

1 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill would require the Department of Education (DOE) and
7 the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to establish online
8 reporting systems for schools and child care centers to report lead
9 testing results.

10 In July 2016, the State Board of Education adopted regulations
11 requiring every school in the State to test for lead in drinking water.
12 Shortly thereafter, in January 2017, the Department of Children and
13 Families adopted regulations requiring each child care facility in the
14 State to test for lead in drinking water. While lead test results were
15 required to be submitted to the respective departments and made
16 available to children and parents, there is currently no centralized
17 database for, or report on, this data available to the public and
18 policy makers. Such a centralized database would allow policy
19 makers and the public to better understand the extent of lead
20 contamination in schools and child care centers in the State and
21 allow policy makers to do the necessary analysis to effectuate
22 remedial funding and technical assistance.

23 This bill would require the DOE and the DCF to establish online
24 reporting systems for schools and childcare centers to report their
25 lead testing results electronically. Under the bill, within 90 days
26 after establishment of the databases, each school and childcare
27 center that was required pursuant to law or regulation to test for
28 lead would be required to submit or resubmit its test results and any
29 other required information via the online reporting system. The
30 DOE and DCF would be required to compile the test results on their
31 respective Internet websites for access by the public. Finally, the
32 bill would require both departments to prepare and submit a report
33 to the Governor and the Legislature outlining the extent of lead
34 contamination in the drinking water of schools and child care
35 centers, the associated need for assistance with remediation
36 activities, and recommendations for how the State can assist schools
37 and child care centers with remediating lead in drinking water.

38 This bill stems from recommendations in the Joint Legislative
39 Task Force on Drinking Water Infrastructure's final report, released
40 in January 2018.