



**Testimony of Paul Snider, representing NRDC
In Support of HB 2142
House Education Committee
February 14, 2023**

NRDC is pleased to support HB 2142, the Get the Lead Out of School Drinking Water Act. NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council) is a not-for-profit membership organization that works to ensure the rights of people to clean air, clean water, and healthy communities - with the expertise of some 700 scientists, lawyers, and policy advocates across the globe. I appreciate the committee devoting time to this important issue.

Several experts and advocates will testify for you today to explain the need for this legislation.

When this bill is worked, I urge the committee to include the attached amendment that would conform the bill to how we intended it to be originally presented to you, focusing on filtering options for remediation.

Thank you and please support HB 2142.

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NRDC Proposed Amendment

HB 2142

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1 (h) "Private school" means an organization that:
 2 (1) Regularly offers education at the elementary or secondary level;
 3 (2) is exempt from federal income taxation under section 501 of the
 4 federal internal revenue code;
 5 (3) conforms to the civil rights act of 1964; and
 6 (4) attendance at which satisfies compulsory school attendance laws
 7 of this state.

8 (i) "Public school" means any elementary or secondary school
 9 maintained and operated by a school district organized under the laws of
 10 this state.

11 (j) "Remediation" means decreasing the lead concentration in water
 12 from a drinking water outlet to less than one part per billion, including, but
 13 not limited to, using methods such as the replacement of a drinking water
 14 outlet with a filtered drinking water outlet or the replacement of lead-
 15 containing pipes, solder, fittings or fixtures with lead-free components.
 16 "Remediation" does not include sole reliance on flushing practices.

17 (k) "School" means any public or private school or any provider of an
 18 early childhood education program that receives state funding.

19 (l) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of health and
 20 environment.

21 Sec. 3. (a) Commencing in the school year 2024-2025 and for each
 22 school year thereafter, each school shall provide drinking water with a lead
 23 concentration level below one part per billion in sufficient amounts to
 24 meet the drinking water needs of all students and staff in accordance with
 25 this section.

26 (b) On or before January 1, 2025, each school shall:

27 (1) Conduct an inventory of all drinking water outlets and non-
 28 potable water fixtures in each building of the school;

29 (2) remove any drinking water coolers that are not lead-free as
 30 determined by the United States environmental protection agency under
 31 the federal lead contamination control act of 1988;

32 (3) ~~install a filter that reduces lead in drinking water on each drinking-~~
 33 ~~water outlet;~~

34 (4) post a warning sign at each non-potable water fixture that such
 35 fixture shall not be used for cooking or drinking water purposes;

36 (5) prepare an annual schedule for the testing of drinking water
 37 outlets and drinking water coolers. Such schedule shall be provided to
 38 employees of the school and parents or legal guardians of students enrolled
 39 at such school upon request; and

40 (6) prepare general information on the health effects of lead
 41 contamination and additional informational resources regarding lead
 42 contamination. Such information shall be provided to employees of the
 43 school and parents or legal guardians of students enrolled at such school

installing a filter that reduces lead in drinking water on each drinking
 water outlet and maintaining such filters, replacing a drinking water
 outlet with a new lead-free drinking water outlet or

(2) install a filter that reduces lead in drinking water on each drinking
 water outlet, maintain such filters to ensure that lead concentration
 levels are below one part per billion and replace such filters as least as
 frequently as provided for in the manufacturer's instructions, or replace
 a drinking water outlet with a new lead-free drinking water outlet;
 [reorder remaining]

or drinking water outlets