

TESTING FOR CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING

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House Bill 4200 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Helena Scott
Committee: Health Policy
Complete to 6-21-23

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4200 would amend the Public Health Code to require that children be tested for lead poisoning at certain ages, that the testing be recorded on their certificate of immunization, and that the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) develop rules to implement the bill's requirements.

Testing

Beginning January 1, 2024, a physician treating a patient who is a minor (under 18 years of age) would have to test the minor for lead poisoning at the intervals and using the methods specified by DHHS by rule.

However, this requirement would *not* apply to a minor whose parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis objects to the testing.

Certificate of immunization

A physician who performs a lead poisoning test as described above would have to make an entry of the testing on the minor's certificate of immunization. Beginning January 1, 2024, a certificate of immunization would have to include a space to indicate whether the minor has been tested for lead poisoning.

(Under the code, a certificate of immunization is presented to a person accompanying a child by a health care provider that administers an immunizing agent to the child. The certificate is required to be in a form prescribed by DHHS and must indicate the diseases or infections for which the child has been immunized, the number of doses given, the dates when administered, and whether further immunizations are indicated.)

Rules

DHHS would have to promulgate rules to implement the bill. The rules would have to include at least all of the following:

- A requirement that a minor residing in Michigan be tested once between the ages of 9 months and 12 months and be tested once again between the ages of two years and three years.
- The identification of geographic areas in Michigan that pose a high risk for childhood lead poisoning and a requirement that a minor who is four years old be tested if they reside in one of those geographic areas.
- Factors to identify a minor who is at high risk for lead poisoning. The factors would at a minimum have to include residing in a home where other minors have been diagnosed with lead poisoning and residing in a home built before 1978.

- A requirement that a minor be tested at intervals determined by DHHS if a physician determines that the minor is at high risk for lead poisoning by applying the factors identified above, through a parent's attestation, or through the physician's own independent medical judgment.

MCL 333.9206 and proposed MCL 333.5474d

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4200 would have one-time modest fiscal implications for DHHS to carry out the process of promulgation of rules to implement the bill. These costs should be able to be absorbed by the current appropriations for administration and the relevant programs. The bill would have one-time minor fiscal implications for DHHS to modify the existing form of the certificate of immunization.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.