

Subject Lead in Schools

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Overview

This bill modifies current requirements for testing school drinking water by requiring remediation when testing reveals that the presence of lead exceeds five parts per billion. It also requires centralized reporting to the Department of Health.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Lead in school drinking water.
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Subd. 1. Model plan. Requires the state model plan to include recommendations for lead remediation efforts when water lead exceeds five parts per billion (ppb). The model plan is issued by the commissioners of health and education.

Subd. 3. Frequency of testing. Requires a school district or charter school to shut off or make a water source unavailable when testing shows the presence of lead exceeds five ppb. Requires a district or charter school to test again for the presence of lead after completing remediation activities.

Subd. 4. Ten-year facilities plan. Requires a district to include lead testing and remediation in its ten-year facilities plan.

Subd. 5. Reporting. Requires school districts and charter schools to remediate the presence of lead when testing is above five ppb, and notify parents and school staff of the test result, provide educational materials about lead in drinking water, and share a plan for remediation. Requires districts and charter schools to report test results and remediation efforts to the commissioner of health. Requires the commissioner of health to post test results and remediation efforts on the department website, by school site.

Section Description

Subd. 6. Public water system. States that a district or charter school is not financially responsible for remediating elevated lead levels if the public water system is a significant contributor to lead contamination.

Subd. 7. Commissioner recommendations. Requires the commissioner of health to report to the legislature by January 1, 2026, and every five years thereafter on recommended changes to this section, including suggested changes on the level of lead that requires remediation.

Effective date: This section is effective July 1, 2023.

2 Long-term facilities maintenance revenue.

Adds the cost of lead remediation to a district's long-term facilities maintenance revenue.

3 Long-term facilities maintenance revenue for a charter school.

Adds the cost of lead remediation to a charter school's long-term facilities maintenance revenue.

4 Long-term facilities maintenance equalization revenue.

Strikes obsolete language.

5 Long-term facilities maintenance equalized levy.

Strikes obsolete language.

6 Long-term facilities maintenance unequalized levy.

Strikes obsolete language.

7 Long-term facilities maintenance equalized aid.

Strikes obsolete language.

8 Appropriation.

Appropriates money for grants to American Indian Tribal contract schools for lead remediation activities.



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