



WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Public Health acknowledges that there is no safe level of lead in the body; and,

WHEREAS, childhood lead exposure contributes to learning disabilities, developmental delays, behavioral problems, and other negative health effects; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois passed the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act in 1973 to set mandatory assessment, testing, and reporting requirements in addition to establishing the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in the Illinois Department of Public Health to monitor the identification and treatment of lead-exposed children; and,

WHEREAS, in 2018, Public Act 100-0723 was signed into law which requires public health intervention at five micrograms per deciliter of lead in blood - the Lead Poisoning Prevention Code has been amended to begin identifying children with 3.5 micrograms per deciliter of lead in blood as the public health intervention level beginning on January 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, the number of identified high-risk zip codes for pediatric lead exposure in Illinois increased to 1,182 on July 1, 2024, and in 2023, more than 202,000 Illinois children were tested for lead in their blood and nearly 3,200 children had confirmed lead in their blood at public health intervention levels; and,

WHEREAS, the major source of lead exposure among Illinois children continues to be lead-contaminated dust and lead-based paint banned in 1978 - the Illinois Department of Public Health Lead Program is committed to bringing awareness for the need of children to be evaluated for lead exposure; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is pleased to join with health care professionals, agencies, and their delegates in observance of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week and to increase awareness and promote the prevention of lead exposure in children;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 20-26, 2024, as **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week** in Illinois and encourage all citizens to recognize the prevalence of lead exposure in our society and to join in working toward eradicating this unfortunate and unnecessary condition.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,

this NINTH *day of* OCTOBER, *in*

the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and

TWENTY-FOUR, *and of the State of Illinois,*

two hundred and FIFTH.

Alexi Giannouli
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR