

LEAD-FREE KIDS NEW YORK 2022 BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES



Lead-Free Kids New York (LFKNY) is a growing statewide coalition of individuals, groups and organizations working together to end New York's childhood lead exposure and poisoning crises. We work statewide to identify and advocate for state level policy solutions to childhood lead exposure in housing and other settings within the community. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/leadfreekidsny>

Did you know?



It will cost \$904 million to address the short and long-term problems created by lead poisoning in the children born in New York State each year with elevated blood lead levels.

Source: Columbia Law School Health Justice Advocacy Center



NYS has **the nation's highest number of homes built before lead paint was banned** in 1978. That's 5.3 million houses.

Source: National Association of Home Builders



We also have the **most children in the US impacted by lead exposure**: 3.9% of NYS children have blood lead levels of >5 ug/dL, compared to 2.5% of US children with blood lead levels of >3.5 ug/dL

Source: NYS Dept. of Health presentation at the NYS Senate Hearing on November 30th; US CDC

SFY 2022-23 BUDGET PRIORITIES

Investments in Housing Renovation: Inclusive Language in the Environmental Bond Act

The Senate and Assembly both increase funds for the Environmental Bond Act. We support increasing it to \$6 billion, including \$1 billion in new funding for environmental benefits to low-to-moderate income households. This should include renewable heating and cooling, and pre-weatherization lead hazard control such as friction surface abatement and window replacement, and weatherization to achieve lead stabilized, climate mitigating homes.

\$10M for Landlord Grants for Lead Abatement

The Assembly included \$10 million for grants to landlords to conduct lead abatement. We support this inclusion in the final budget.

LeadWeb Expansion & Oversight: For SFY 2022-23, Start Updating LeadWeb - \$2M

Data accessible to the public regarding lead poisoning in our communities is *seven years out of date*, despite mandates for daily reporting. The culprit: the Department of Health's use of and interpretation of disclosure through a program called LeadWeb. In the absence of this much-needed reboot of the program, urgent action to address the underlying technology and some staff increasing is critical. The computers and software running the current version of LeadWeb are woefully out of date. Investing \$2M in technological upgrades and staff levels for data quality control are an important first steps to ensure the NYS Department of Health executes its mandated reporting, oversight and compliance for tracking blood lead levels in our state's children.

LFKNY c/o Clean and Healthy New York, 69 State St. Suite 1400C, Albany, NY 12207 ◊ (518) 641-1552 ◊
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Children's Defense Fund, 815 2nd Ave #8, New York, NY 10017
WEACT 1854 Amsterdam Ave 2nd floor, New York, NY 10031

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Support NY's Lead-Exposed Kids with \$47M for Local County Health Departments

When New York finally lowered its action level from 10 ug/dL to 5 ug/dL in 2019, no additional funds were provided to local health departments. The State has since merged primary prevention in 15 counties with secondary prevention in all counties into one Lead Poisoning Prevention Categorical Grant, and then added 5 additional counties (Cayuga, Chemung, Jefferson, Montgomery, and Rockland). It's vital that the State allocate at least \$47 million for these combined programs.

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2022 POLICY PRIORITIES



NEW: Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention & Safe Housing Act of 2022

S. 8453 (Kavanagh)

This legislation would amend the Real Property, Labor, Public Health, Tax, Multiple Dwelling, and Social Services Laws to create for the first time a comprehensive framework for “primary” prevention of lead poisoning in New York. S. 8453 will be a cornerstone of the primary prevention approach.

Co-Sponsors: SENATE - Cleare, Parker



Lead Based Paint Disclosure Act

S. 2142A (Kavanagh) / A. 6608A (Rivera)

Federal law requires that sellers or lessors of pre-1978 housing disclose to buyers or renters any knowledge of lead-based paint in the residence. S. 2142A /A. 6608A will ensure that testing actually happens, and close the loophole that allows property owners to avoid knowing. It will require the NYS Department of Health to issue a report to track and address homes that have lead present.

Co-Sponsors: SENATE - Brouk, Cooney, Jackson, Mannion, May, G. Rivera, Salazar, Skoufis, Parker
ASSEMBLY - Conrad, Rodriguez, Benedetto, Gottfried, Dinowitz, Septimo, Simon, Richardson, Jackson, Sillitti, McDonough, Glick, Frontus, Fernandez, Reyes, Bronson, Clark, Hevesi, Seawright, Lunsford, Peoples-Stokes, Gonzalez-Rojas



The New York State Renovation, Repair and Painting Act

S. 6554 (Bailey) / A. 7117 (Bronson)

This legislation would enable the State to administrate federal Renovation, Repair, and Painting rules and conduct training, certification, and enforcement. A report from the Community Foundation of Buffalo estimated this bill would protect ~140,000 children under age 6 from lead exposure in ~483,000 homes each year.

Co-Sponsors: SENATE - Cooney, Mannion, May, G. Rivera, Salazar, Skoufis, Parker
ASSEMBLY - Reyes, Seawright, Kelles, O'Donnell, Abbate, Lunsford



Landlord Insurance for Lead Based Paint

S. 3079A (Ryan) / A. 7488A (J. Rivera)

A majority of the housing stock in New York State was built before 1978, which is before lead in paint was banned nationally. As a result, many families are renting homes with lead paint, some for generations. If children are lead poisoned, current law exempts landlord insurance companies from covering the costs. The burden of health care costs then becomes the renter or buyer’s responsibility. S. 3079A / A. 7488A will close this loophole, to

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ensure such victims will be adequately compensated for medical bills and other lead-exposure related expenses and damages.

Co-Sponsors: SENATE - Biaggi, Brouk, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Mannion, May, Palumbo, Ramos, Reichlin-Melnick, G. Rivera, Salazar, Skoufis, Parker
ASSEMBLY - Dinowitz, Hevesi, Rodriguez, Meeks, Mamdani, Seawright, Jackson, Galef, Gottfried, Fahy, McMahon, Clark, Simon, Peoples-Stokes

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