



**Governor Ned Lamont  
State of Connecticut**



FACT SHEET  
2022 Legislative Session

**HOUSE BILL 5045  
GOVERNOR'S BILL  
*AN ACT REDUCING LEAD POISONING***

Year after year, thousands of children in Connecticut ingest dangerous levels of lead. To complement unprecedented federal investments in removing lead from our homes and drinking water, Governor Lamont proposes improving the state's public health response to children with elevated blood lead levels and requiring more frequent testing of children living in the communities most at risk.

**The Problem**

Childhood lead poisoning has catastrophic impacts on health and development, including irreversible learning and developmental disabilities. Those impacts deny children the opportunity to live full and productive lives, devastate families, and disproportionately burden our most vulnerable communities.

Despite the well-known risks, Connecticut has allowed its standards for lead testing and treatment to fall well behind the best practices established by the CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Two years ago, 2,994 young children had enough lead in their blood that the CDC would have recommended an environmental investigation of their homes. Our statutes required only 120 investigations. In nearly 2,000 of the cases, they did not even recommend pediatricians or local health departments notify parents of the test results or the risks posed by continued lead exposure.

**Governor Lamont's Solution**

Governor Lamont proposes strengthening early intervention in instances of lead poisoning by gradually reducing the blood lead level that triggers parental notifications and home inspections to more closely align with CDC and AAP recommendations—recommendation the city of New Haven have already adopted. Additionally, he proposes empowering the Department of Public Health to require more frequent testing of children living in cities and towns where exposure to lead is most common. Those changes will ensure the families of children with unsafe blood lead levels receive appropriate educational materials, the homes of those children are inspected and remediated when appropriate, and the children themselves receive any required care.

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Far better to prevent lead poisoning before it happens than to treat children and homes when it's already too late. Our cities and towns have been doing great work on the front lines of home safety but have been severely limited by spending limits and red tape. To help them in their work, Governor Lamont separately proposes we address the root causes of lead poisoning by investing \$70 million of ARPA funding in remediation and abatement projects so more homes are lead-safe and free of other dangers like asbestos and mold. Those projects will use local contractors, fueling the State's economy. Most importantly, they – and millions of dollars of IJA funding dedicated to removing lead service lines for drinking water – will increase access to safe, lead-free homes where Connecticut residents can raise thriving families.

	<b>Current</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025+</b>
<b>Parental Notice</b>	10 µg/dL	3.5 µg/dL	3.5 µg/dL	3.5 µg/dL
<b>Onsite Inspection</b>	15 µg/dL	10 µg/dL	5 µg/dL	-
<b>Epidemiological Investigation</b>	20 µg/dL	15 µg/dL	10 µg/dL	5 µg/dL