



January 18, 2024

TO: Chair Rogers and Members of the House Health Policy Committee

FROM: Amy Zaagman, Executive Director
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RE: HB 4532, HB 5368 and 5369

As members of the Michigan Alliance for Lead Safe Housing, the Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health supports the bills before you today to address lead exposure in children and ensure consistent and swift reaction when we know a child has an elevated blood lead level (EBL).

MCMCH members are part of the continuum of health providers who work with families when children have been exposed to lead including:

- pediatric subspecialists who provide complex medical care to those with the highest concentrations
- primary care providers who may be the first to screen and test for EBL; and
- local public health departments which provide case management and help families navigate local resources.

There is no safe amount of lead and recently the reference value or amount that triggered action was lowered to 3.5 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We support HB 5368 as it will statutorily set the EBL in Michigan at the lowest number of micrograms per deciliter recognized by experts.

In addition to strongly encouraging education about the hazards of lead exposure during pregnancy and well child visits, MCMCH supports the universal testing requirements for all children recently enacted. We believe providers should use best practices for children with EBL to ensure they receive all necessary services and supports. HB 5369 requires pediatric providers and local public health departments to refer a child with an EBL to the Early On program administered by local ISDs where trained professionals work with children and families to identify and address developmental delays as soon as possible.

We appreciate the Legislature's continued focus on ways to prevent and address childhood lead exposure and we look forward to additional efforts.

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Beaumont Children's Hospital

Children's Hospital of
Michigan/Detroit Medical Center

Henry Ford Health System

University of Michigan C.S. Mott
Children's Hospital and Von
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Michigan Association for Infant
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