

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2000 SESSION

CHAPTER 907

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 32.1-46.1 and 32.1-46.2, relating to testing of children for elevated blood-lead levels.

[S 725]

Approved April 9, 2000

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 32.1-46.1 and 32.1-46.2 as follows:

§ 32.1-46.1. Board to establish protocol for identification of children with elevated blood-lead levels.

The Board shall promulgate regulations establishing a protocol for the identification of children at risk for elevated blood-lead levels which shall provide (i) for blood-lead level testing at appropriate ages and frequencies, when indicated, and (ii) for criteria for determining low risk for elevated blood-lead levels and when such blood-lead level testing is not indicated. As deemed necessary by the Board, the protocol may also address follow-up testing for children with elevated blood-lead levels, dissemination of the protocol and/or other information to relevant health care professionals, appropriate information for parents, and other means of preventing lead poisoning among children. In promulgating such regulations, the Board shall consider the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and may consider such other materials relating to lead poisoning prevention, testing, and treatment as it deems appropriate.

§ 32.1-46.2. Certain testing or determination of low risk for elevated blood-lead levels required.

In accordance with the protocol required by § 32.1-46.1 and the regulations of the Board of Health promulgated thereto, the parent, guardian or other person standing in loco parentis of each child within the Commonwealth shall cause such child to be tested for elevated blood-lead levels or shall obtain a determination that the child is at low risk for elevated blood-lead levels.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to any child whose parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of such child shall object to such testing on the grounds that the procedure conflicts with his religious tenets or practices.

2. That the Board of Health shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of § 32.1-46.1, as included herein, within 280 days of the enactment of this act.

3. That § 32.1-46.2 shall become effective on July 1, 2001.