



2018 New York State YMCA  
Youth And Government

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Committee Assignment:

Bill #:

1 **Sponsors:** Matthew Vlacich, Victoria Guzzi, Jacob Taylor

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend § 1110.00 subdivision 3 of the New York State Public Health Law to  
5 mandate water fountain lead tests in all New York State public schools every six  
6 months.

7

8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

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10 **Purpose**

11 To mandate water fountain lead tests in all New York State public schools.

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

14 **Lead Contamination:** the buildup of lead in the body over the course of months or  
15 years.

16 **Section 2:**

17 § 1110.00. School potable water testing and standards

18 2.) Where a finding of lead contamination is made, the

19 affected school district shall: (a) continue first-drawn tap water testing pursuant  
20 to regulations promulgated pursuant to this section; (b) provide school occupants  
21 with an adequate supply of safe, potable water for drinking as required by rules  
22 and regulations of the department until future tests indicate lead levels pursuant to  
23 regulations promulgated pursuant to this section; and (c) provide parents or  
24 persons in parental relation to a child attending said school with written notification  
25 of test results as well as posting such test results on the school district's website.

26 3.) First-drawn tap testing shall be ~~not being required for school buildings that have~~  
27 ~~been deemed "lead-free" as defined by section 1417 of the federal safe drinking~~  
28 ~~water act. required every six months in all New York State public schools.~~

29 4.) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of education,  
30 shall promulgate regulations to carry out the provisions of this  
31 section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the regulations  
32 promulgated with regard to lead levels shall be consistent with the requirements for  
33 those school district classified as a public water system under parts 141 and 142 of  
34 title 40 of the code of federal regulations as such regulations may, from time to  
35 time, be amended.

36 **Justification**

37 By having school water fountains tested for lead contamination every six months,  
38 students will be granted with a variety of health benefits. For example, frequent  
39 lead tests will prevent students from consuming contaminated water and  
40 experiencing the many illnesses associated with it. The consumption of too much  
41 lead has been found to lead to learning difficulties, weight loss, hearing loss, and  
42 even seizures. Unfortunately, over fourteen percent of school water fountains have  
43 been reported of having lead contamination. Therefore, it is it time we address this  
44 matter not only for the state, but for the futures of our children as well.

45 **Fiscal Implications**

46 Most public schools have free or reduced prices when getting lead tests; however, if  
47 a school doesn't have a free or reduced price, it will cost approximately \$400 per  
48 school. That of which would come directly from the school budget and would cost  
49 taxpayers nothing.

50 **Effective Date**

51 This bill will go into effect one year after passage.