

By Senator Cruz

18-00440A-21

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to drinking water in public schools;  
3           providing legislative findings; requiring the Office  
4           of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
5           Accountability (OPPAGA) to conduct a study of the  
6           prevalence and effects of lead in drinking water in  
7           public schools; specifying the information that must  
8           be included in the study; requiring OPPAGA to consult  
9           with district school boards, district boards, and  
10          other interested entities; requiring OPPAGA to submit  
11          the study to the Governor and the Legislature by a  
12          specified date; providing for future repeal; providing  
13          an effective date.

14  
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17           Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that:

18           (a) The adverse health effects of lead exposure in children  
19           and adults are well documented and no safe blood-lead level in  
20           children has been identified;

21           (b) Lead accumulates in the body and can be ingested from  
22           various sources, including water sources used for drinking, food  
23           preparation, or cooking; and

24           (c) All sources of lead should be controlled or eliminated  
25           to prevent childhood lead poisoning.

26           (2) The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government  
27           Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a study of the prevalence  
28           and effects of lead in drinking water in public schools.

29           (3) The study must include all of the following

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30 information:

31 (a) The effects of lead on the health, growth, and mental  
32 development of children.

33 (b) The financial impact on the state due to the effects of  
34 lead on the health, growth, and mental development of children.

35 (c) How much each school district is affected by lead in  
36 school drinking water arranged by most affected to least  
37 affected.

38 (d) The cost to maintain the lead pipes currently used by  
39 public schools, including pipes that use lead in solder.

40 (e) The cost for the state to provide point of use water  
41 filters certified by the American National Standards Institute  
42 to reduce lead.

43 (4) In conducting the study, OPPAGA shall consult with  
44 district school boards, district boards as defined in s.  
45 153.52(3), Florida Statutes, and other interested entities.

46 (5) OPPAGA shall submit the study to the Governor, the  
47 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
48 Representatives by January 1, 2022.

49 (6) This act shall stand repealed on June 30, 2022, unless  
50 reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the  
51 Legislature.

52 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.