

HB 995 -- LEAD IN SCHOOL DRINKING WATER

SPONSOR: Knight

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 9 to 0.

Currently there are two Missouri statutes that address lead contamination in school water.

This bill modifies the "Get the Lead Out of School Drinking Water Act" and the definitions of "drinking water outlet" and "remediation". A "drinking water outlet" now includes outlets that are used for cleaning cooking or eating utensils and "remediation" now excludes flushing and adds filtering the water.

The bill requires that lead filters met the standards set by the Department of Natural Resources and allow for the removal of a water outlet from service as an option if lead contamination is discovered.

This bill specifies that if all drinking water outlets in a school have test results of less than five parts per billion for lead, the school is only required to be tested every five years.

The bill repeals provisions regarding school districts serving students under first grade that were constructed before 1996.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill combines the two statutes currently in law relating to lead testing for water in schools and will provide clarity to those how have to implement the program.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Knight; Arnie C. Dienoff; and Ben Terrell, Department of Health & Senior Services.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.