

Lee, Chris

From: Dimitrijevic, Marina
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 9:58 AM
To: Lee, Chris
Subject: Fwd: Support omnibus bill that continues the fight against lead poisoning

Please send to all FP members and add to the file.

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Marina Dimitrijevic
Alderwoman | 14th District

Chairwoman,
Finance and Personnel Committee
Hablo Español
She/Her/Hers/Ella
p: [\(414\) 286-3769](tel:(414)286-3769)
e: marina@milwaukee.gov
[200 E Wells Street, Room 205](#)

From: COLE Chair <colechairperson@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 9:54:47 AM
To: Dimitrijevic, Marina <Marina@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Support omnibus bill that continues the fight against lead poisoning

----- Forwarded message -----

From: COLE Chair <colechairperson@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Oct 25, 2023, 2:22 PM
Subject: Support omnibus bill that continues the fight against lead poisoning
To: <JoCasta.Zamarripa@milwaukee.gov>

Alderwoman Zamarripa,

As you know that there is no safe level of lead exposure. Even at lead's lowest detectable levels there can be considerable damage to someone's ability to learn, ability to work a full time job, and can pose serious risks to your overall health.

The Coalition on Lead Emergency (or "COLE") urges you to support the Lead-Paint Abatement Loans provision of the omnibus budget amendment offered by Alders Dimitrijevic, Perez, and seven other Council Members.

The provision would provide \$750,000 for a loan program to assist good-faith landlords with lead-paint abatement.

COLE thanks the Common Council for its previous action to address lead poisoning in Milwaukee. Lead robs children of their potential, reproduces racial injustice, and has plagued our community for generations, making it imperative that the Common Council continues to work towards ending lead poisoning in Milwaukee. The highest rates of lead poisoning in Milwaukee are in parts of the city that were historically redlined and have housing stock that has not been maintained. Children growing up in these historically redlined, predominantly Black neighborhoods are more likely to be lead poisoned.

We believe that, in addition to responding to children who are currently lead poisoned, Milwaukee needs a comprehensive set of lead-poisoning prevention strategies. Based on successful work in other jurisdictions, we know that significantly lowering the incidence of lead poisoning requires proactively removing lead from rental properties; this includes identifying lead hazards before children are poisoned and financially supporting responsible property owners to take quick action to abate the problem.

The establishment of a Lead-Paint Abatement Loans would be an important building block toward lead poisoning prevention in Milwaukee. It would begin to establish a pool of resources to support property owners in removing lead hazards, and build on the need to improve other vital housing repairs that are needed to keep kids safe. COLE also supports growing the resources available by establishing a Lead Safe & Healthy Homes Fund that could pool private and philanthropic dollars, adding to the City's investments, to make financial support for remediation more widely available.

Thank you for your consideration. Again, COLE urges you to support the Lead-Paint Abatement Loans provision of the omnibus budget amendment.

Best,
Richard Diaz, COLE Chairperson
Coalition on Lead Emergency
c: 414-687-2030
coalitiononleademergency.org

