

Chris O'Brien

From: Steve Stasiuk <sstasiuk@stonelinkpm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 4:36 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Cc: Sen. DiPalma, Louis P.; Rep. Cortvriend, Terri-Denise
Subject: Support H7225, Article 3, Section 17

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to express my support for the proposed amendment to the lead laws and registry passed in 2023 (H7225, Article 3, Section 17). The law as initially passed, while important in addressing the seriousness of lead poisoning was fraught with unnecessary punitive action for housing providers and required compliance which some housing providers, which even under ideal circumstances, might not be able to meet. This amendment still allows for the necessary focus on the need for the enforcement of lead compliance laws, but does so in a far more realistic way. These realistic measures include:

- Only applying the registry requirements to properties that have lead risks (pre-1978 dwellings). As no action is necessary for homes free of lead, there is no administrative hurdle placed upon housing providers.
- Only applying the registry to people not in compliance with current lead laws (as the state will have records of lead compliance by way of submitted lead certification). By default, this provision passively rewards housing providers who submit lead certification without having to jump through additional administrative hoops.
- Only requiring the registry to note the individual owner of OR entity managing the property in the lead conformance database. Listing the party responsible for addressing the issue of lead certification is to identify the party to be held to account for rectifying and solving issues.
- And lastly, by extending the implementation date will also provide the housing provider (individual owner or property manager) the necessary time to rectify issues and properly ensure compliance. This proposal was a heavy lift for housing providers and by extending the implementation date will assist with the financial and time-related burdens of properly coming into compliance.

I appreciate Governor McKee's proposed amendment and encourage your support of these changes to the existing laws passed in 2023. It is great to see amendments like these continue to address the severity of lead poisoning but to do so in a realistic and equitable manner.

Sincerely,

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