



*Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments**

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Legislative Service Commission

Sub. H.B. 248

124th General Assembly
(S. Health, Human Services & Aging)

The Senate committee adopted a substitute bill that revises the bill's provisions for performance of essential maintenance practices, clarifies that training in lead-safe renovation is optional, and modifies the duties and organization of the Wellness Block Grant Program and Children's Trust Fund Board. The substitute bill does the following:

Lead poisoning prevention and licensure of professionals

Eliminates the requirement to perform "essential maintenance practices" with respect to all residential units, child day-care facilities, and schools constructed before 1950, but retains the provision specifying that a property is "legally presumed" not to be the source of an individual's lead poisoning if the property owner or manager implements preventive treatments, which include the performance of essential maintenance practices.

Provides that the preventive treatment of covering horizontal surfaces with a cleanable coating applies only in the areas of a property that are inhabited or occupied.

Provides that essential maintenance practices and specialized cleaning do not apply to the exterior surfaces of a building or to areas of minimal size where maintenance or repair work is being performed.

Removes the criminal penalty for failing to complete training in lead-safe renovation and other references to licensure of lead-safe renovators.

Provides that any person who supervises or performs services for the general improvement of an existing structure has the option of taking a training course in lead-safe renovation and, after successfully completing the course, may represent to the public that the services are being supervised or performed by a lead-safe renovator.

Limits the length of the training programs in essential maintenance practices and lead-safe renovation to not more than six hours, as opposed to the House version's limit of not more than one-day.

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate floor.

Provides that a clearance technician cannot perform a clearance examination as part of a formal lead abatement project and reduces the refresher training that must be completed from "not more than one-day" to not more than two hours every four years.

Eliminates the discretionary rule-making authority of the Public Health Council with regard to the licensing of lead abatement professionals and clearance technicians.

Adds to the Child Lead Poisoning Advisory Council one member who is an Ohio representative of the National Paint and Coatings Association.

Wellness Block Grant Program and Children's Trust Fund

Eliminates the Children's Trust Fund Board's involvement in the Wellness Block Grant Program by making the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) the program's administrative agent.

Requires that the Children's Trust Fund Board allocate funds, rather than make block grants, to child abuse and child neglect prevention advisory boards for programs and to allocate funds for child abuse and child neglect prevention programs to entities other than the advisory boards.

Requires an advisory board to provide effective public notice to potential applicants about the availability of funds from the Trust Fund and to review grant applications using criteria the Trust Fund Board specifies.

Requires that each recipient of a Children's Trust Fund grant from an advisory board include in an annual report information the Board requires.

Requires that returned Children's Trust Fund grants be returned to the State Treasurer if an advisory board does not redistribute it within the state fiscal year in which it is received.

Requires five of the eight public members of the Children's Trust Fund Board to be residents of different metropolitan statistical areas and changes the manner in which the chair and vice-chair are appointed.

Includes social workers among the groups that may be represented on a child abuse and child neglect prevention advisory board.

Prohibits a child abuse and child neglect prevention advisory board member from participating in the development of the board's comprehensive allocation plan if the member's judgment could be affected by a conflict of interest.