

# EPA Renovation, Repair, & Painting Rule – HB 4532

## FACTSHEET

Bill sponsored by Rep. Rachel Hood – Reported out of House Health Policy Committee 2/12/24

### Overview

The EPA Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule is a current federal regulation that protects the public and workers from lead-based paint hazards associated with renovation, repair and painting activities that disturb lead paint in houses built before 1978. MDHHS is advocating for adopting this rule as a state law.

**Michigan House Bill 4532** proposes to open the Lead Abatement Act to add the **EPA's Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule (RRP Rule)** as a part of the Act. This would allow MDHHS to administer and enforce the RRP Rule for Michigan.

### Why is this important?

**Lead poisoned children:** More than 4,000 children in MI were identified as lead poisoned in 2022. However, only 16% of Michigan children were tested for lead poisoning that year, meaning 84% children went UNTESTED (this is typical). The number of lead poisoned children is no doubt much higher than 4,000. (*mitracking.state.mi.us*)

**Old homes:** 63.5% of MI homes were built before 1980, making them very likely to contain lead paint. (*mitracking.state.mi.us: 2020 data*)

**Life-long health effects:** Lead poisoning causes lifelong learning deficits including lowered IQ, slowed learning and hyperactivity. Lead poisoned children are 7 times more likely to drop out of high school.

**Lead poisoning is expensive for Michigan.** Preventing lead poisoning is cost effective. Costs associated with elevated blood lead levels were found to total \$270 million per year for the State of Michigan in 2014. Costs include healthcare, special ed, increase in crime, lost lifetime earnings. (*Ecology Center's 2016 report - <https://www.ecocenter.org/our-work/ending-lead-poisoning>*)

***There is no safe level of lead.***

# Why adopt this law for Michigan?

**It's ALREADY a FEDERAL Law:** Adopting the RRP Rule as a state law gives Michigan the ability to keep Michigan kids safe from lead by ramping up enforcement.

**It Gives More State Control:** 14 states (and growing) have taken over administration and enforcement of the rule. MDHHS has stated a willingness and desire to do so.

**It's Simple:** RRP certification requires a simple, one-day training course and state certification (average cost: \$600 for five-year certification).

**It's Funded:** The EPA has indicated that they will work to fund administration of the RRP Rule and has given a Letter of Support to the MDHHS Lead Section.



*All children deserve a lead-free childhood.*



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