

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 633

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUNTER

WATER/DRINKING WATER: Provides relative to testing for lead in drinking water

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:5.6.1 and 31.33(C)(4), relative to safe drinking water; to provide for
3 legislative findings; to require water testing for lead in certain water systems; to
4 authorize a funding source; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 40:5.6.1 and 31.33(C)(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §5.6.1. Safe drinking water; lead inspections and tests

8 A. The legislature finds all of the following:

9 (1) Lead is a toxic metal that is harmful to human health when it is ingested
10 or inhaled.

11 (2) Unlike most other contaminants, lead is stored in bones, and can be
12 released over time into the bloodstream.

13 (3) Even small doses of lead can build up and become a significant health
14 risk.

15 (4) Even though water delivered from a community's public water supply
16 must meet federal and state standards for lead, a building's plumbing may contribute
17 to elevated lead levels in the drinking water.

18 (5) Testing the water at each outlet is the only sure way to find out if the
19 water contains too much lead.

1 B. The office of public health shall perform a test, or assist in the
2 performance of testing, for elevated levels of lead in drinking water, at least once per
3 year, as funds are appropriated, on all community water systems.

4 C. The fees remitted to the Louisiana Department of Health pursuant to R.S.
5 40:31.33 may be used to implement and administer the provisions of this Section.

6 * * *
7 §31.33. Safe drinking water fee; exemptions

8 * * *

9 C. The funds remitted to the department pursuant to Subsections A and B of
10 this Section shall be used for the following purposes:

11 * * *

12 (4) To perform tests, or assist in the performance of testing, for elevated
13 levels of lead in drinking water pursuant to R.S. 40:5.6.1.

14 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 633 Engrossed 2018 Regular Session Hunter

Abstract: Requires testing for elevated levels of lead in drinking water supplied by community water systems.

Proposed law requires the office of public health of the La. Dept. of Health to perform a test, or assist in the performance of testing, for elevated levels of lead in drinking water, at least once per year, on all community water systems.

Present law, R.S. 40:31.33, establishes the safe drinking water fee. Provides for the amount of the fee and authorizes uses of fee amounts collected by the state. Proposed law retains present law and authorizes the use of such monies for the water testing required by proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 40:5.6.1 and 31.33(C)(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Require that water testing be performed on all community water systems, rather than on all water supplies accessible by the public in state-owned, state-operated, or state-licensed facilities.