

AB 100 (Holden) Lead-Leaching Standard for Faucets

SUPPORT

Assembly Bill 100 will reduce Californians' daily exposure to lead, a very dangerous neurotoxin and carcinogen. AB 100 enacts a firm lead-leaching standard for faucets by prohibiting the sale of any drinking water faucet, fixture, or water fountain that leaches more than one microgram of lead into drinking water -- the strictest certifiable standard.

Lead exposure, even at low levels, can cause serious health effects for all age groups. Infants and children who drink water containing lead, or fetuses exposed to lead in the womb, could have decreases in IQ and attention span and increases in learning and behavior problems. Children absorb 50 percent of the lead that they ingest. Adult exposure to lead is linked to increased risk of cardiovascular disease and high blood pressure, as well as kidney and nervous system problems. Because of these risks, the Centers for Disease Control states that there is no safe level of lead exposure.

California has progressively worked to reduce residents' exposure to lead. The state can lessen Californians' lead exposure further by greatly limiting the amount of lead that faucets and fixtures leach into the public's drinking water.

AB 100 ensures that faucets and plumbing fixtures sold in California leach as little lead as possible.

Cosponsors: Environmental Working Group, Clean Water Action, CalPIRG; **Other supporters include**: Environmental Defense Fund, Western Center on Law and Poverty, Sierra Club California, California League of Conservation Voters, California Coastkeeper Alliance, Breast Cancer Prevention Partners, Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce, Physicians for Social Responsibility Bay Area Chapter, Center for Environmental Health, Environment California, First 5 San Francisco, Environmental Health Coalition, Friends Committee on Legislation of California, Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments, Mi Familia Vota, California Product Stewardship Council, Early Childhood Matters, Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety, Fresno Barrio Unidos, Erin Brockovich Foundation, Inc., Integrated Resource Management.