



An Act Establishing A Program To Promote Environmentally Safe Housing For Children And Families.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) For purposes of this section:

2 (1) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
3 Management;

4 (2) "Eligible families" means any household which (A) is eligible for
5 the federal Medicaid program, (B) includes a child who is six years of
6 age or younger as of the effective date of this section, and (C) is
7 residing in a building built prior to 1978; and

8 (3) "The program" or "this program" means the program established
9 by this section.

10 (b) The secretary shall establish a program to promote
11 environmentally safe housing for children and families through
12 education, medical screening and appropriate and cost-effective
13 repairs. Such program shall (1) identify eligible families and, through
14 home visits, provide education about the problems caused by exposure
15 to lead and how to avoid or lessen the effects of such exposure, (2)
16 provide blood lead screening for children who are six years of age or
17 younger, (3) identify measures to be taken to lessen the effects from the
18 presence of lead, including window repair or replacement, (4) provide

19 training to property owners on their responsibilities, cost-effective
20 routine maintenance and upgrades, and help available to them under
21 state and federal programs, (5) apply to federal programs and to other
22 funding sources which will pay for some of the costs of this program,
23 and (6) continue to evaluate the program's progress in order to plan for
24 a phase-out in three to five years. The secretary shall contract with a
25 nonprofit entity which shall operate the program.

26 (c) Eligible costs by a nonprofit entity operating this program shall
27 include costs and expenses incurred in providing lead-safety
28 education, interim measures and window repair or replacement or
29 other remediation for dwelling units, administrative and management
30 expenses, planning and start-up costs, and any other costs and
31 expenses found by the secretary to be necessary and reasonable and in
32 accordance with existing state regulations.

33 Sec. 2. (a) For the purposes described in subsection (b) of this
34 section, the State Bond Commission shall have the power, from time to
35 time, to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more
36 series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate seven
37 million dollars.

38 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the
39 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the
40 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for the purpose of
41 funding remediation to dwelling units under the program established
42 in section 1 of this act.

43 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the
44 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not
45 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and
46 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission
47 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the
48 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized
49 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to
50 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not

51 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided
52 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond
53 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be
54 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
55 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is
56 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
57 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,
58 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this
59 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and
60 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the
61 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and
62 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of
63 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual
64 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State
65 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become
66 due.

67 Sec. 3. The sum of one million forty thousand dollars is
68 appropriated to the Office of Policy and Management, from the
69 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, for the operation
70 of the program established in section 1 of this act.

71 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

HSG Committee Vote: Yea 11 Nay 0 JFS C/R PD

PD Committee Vote: Yea 16 Nay 0 JF C/R APP