

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES

The meeting was called to order by Representative Holmes at
Chairperson

3:30 ~~XX~~ a.m./p.m. on March 14, 1988 in room 527-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representatives Spaniol, Excused, Rep. Grotewiel, Exc., Rep. Sutter, Exc., Rep. Guldner, Exc., Rep. Sallee, Exc., Rep. Shore, Exec., Rep. Rezac, Exc, and Rep. Patrick, Exc.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Research Dept.

Laura Howard, Research Dept.

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Karl Mueldenor, Ks. Department of Health & Environment

Representative Holmes opened the meeting.

Karl Mueldenor, Ks. Dept. of Health & Environment told members SB 639 was an Act relating to water supplies and the use of lead products in plumbing. This bill implements the requirements of the 1986 Federal Safe Drinking Act concerning use of lead products in public water systems.

Mr. Mueldenor explained the law does two things 1) prohibits the use of solder or flux containing more than .02% lead or pipe or pipe fittings containing more that .08% lead in new installations and repairs of public water supply systems or plumbing of buildings providing water for human consumption; and 2) the law requires public water systems to give notice to consumers who may be affected by lead contamination, potential health effects and possible methods of mitigating lead contamination.

He said states are required to implement these two provisions or forfeit approximately 5% of grant money received from the EPA.

The bill amends K.S.A. 65-171r addressing prohibited acts to add the lead solder/flux/pipe ban and to prohibit sale of lead solder or flux with more that .02% lead unless property labeled. The bill also amends state law to allow the Secretary of Kansas Department of Health & Environment to require public water suppliers to give notice to customers whenever lead contamination is possible, and the bill places the state in compliance with the requirements.

Mr. Mueldenor asked for Committee support on this bill. (Attachment 1)

Question, answer and committee discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned

STATE OF KANSAS



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

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Mike Hayden, *Governor*

Stanley C. Grant, Ph.D., *Secretary*
Gary K. Hulett, Ph.D., *Under Secretary*

Testimony Presented to
Energy and Natural Resources Committee

by

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment

House Bill 639

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

This bill implements requirements of the 1986 Amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) concerning use of lead products in public water systems.

Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Amendments:

- prohibits use of solder or flux containing more than 0.2% lead, or pipe and pipe fittings containing more than 8.0% lead, in new installations and repairs of public water supply systems or in the plumbing of any building providing water for human consumption; and
- requires public water supply systems to give notice to consumers who may be affected by lead contamination, of the potential lead sources, potential health effects, and possible methods of mitigating lead contamination.

States are required by the SDWA to implement these two provisions of federal law or forfeit up to 5% of the grant received from the Environmental Protection Agency (a loss of approximately \$21,000 to KDHE) for administration of the public water supply supervision program.

This bill amends K.S.A. 65-171r, "Prohibited Acts," to add the lead solder/flux/pipe ban and to prohibit sale of lead solder or flux with more than 0.2% lead unless the product is properly labeled.

This bill also amends K.S.A. 65-1710, to allow the Secretary of KDHE to require public water suppliers to give notice to their customers whenever lead contamination from the distribution system materials or from the corrosivity characteristics of the water is possible.

This bill will place the State of Kansas in compliance with the requirements of federal law.

Lead has no known useful function in the human body. Lead is a well-known toxin causing damage to the nervous system, blood forming processes, gastrointestinal system and the kidneys. Recent studies have shown that lead also causes cognitive damage, can stunt children's growth and raise blood pressure in adult males, even at low levels. Health effects range from subtle biochemical changes at low doses to severe retardation or death at higher levels. Young children and fetuses are most at risk to damage from exposure to lead.

Lead rarely occurs naturally in Kansas drinking water sources. The major source of lead in drinking water is the plumbing of individual houses dissolved by corrosive water. How much lead leaches from pipes and soldered joints containing lead depends upon the time of contact between the water and the plumbing, the corrosivity of water and the age and condition of the plumbing. New solder, particularly, leaches lead easily.

Kansas waters are not generally aggressive and lead contamination of drinking water has not been determined to be a problem in this state. However, lead contamination can occur with new plumbing and solder, particularly if the water is softened. These changes in Kansas Statute are necessary to place the state in compliance with federal law.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we request your support of this bill.

Presented by: Karl Mueldener, P.E., Director
Bureau of Water Protection

Date: March 14, 1988