**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Louisiana Department of Health**

**Office of Public Health**

Blood Lead Reference Value and Reporting

(LAC 48:V.Chapter 70)

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950, et seq., the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) proposes to amend LAC 48:V.Chapter 70 to specify the blood lead reference value consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and to update the contact information for the Louisiana Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LCLPPP).

**Title 48**

**Public Health—General**

**Part V. Preventive Health Services**

Chapter 70. Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

§7001. Relationship of Local and State Poisoning Prevention Programs

A. The local lead prevention program shall collaborate with the state Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at the Office of Public Health and adhere to current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., and under the authority of R.S. 40:5; 40:1285.1; 40:1285.2; and 40:1285.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, LR 26:85, (January 2000); amended LR 27:52 (January 2001), amended by the Department of Health, Office of Public Health, amended LR 51:

§7003. Definitions

*A Case of Lead Poisoning* (in children between the ages of six months to 72 months of age)―

1. a venous blood-lead level greater than or equal to 3.5 µg/dl (micrograms per deciliter);

2. – 3. …

*Clinical Laboratory*―a facility for the biological, microbiological, serological, chemical, immunohematological, hematological, biophysical, cytological, pathological, or other examination of substances derived from the human body for the purpose of providing information for the diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of any disease, or in the assessment or impairment of the health of human being.

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AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., and under the authority of R.S. 40:5; 40:1285.1; 40:1285.2; and 40:1285.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, LR 26:85, (January 2000); amended LR 27:52 (January 2001), amended by the Department of Health, Office of Public Health, amended LR 51:.

§7005. Mandatory Blood Lead Screening of Children in

High Risk Geographical Areas

A. – B.2. …

3. blood lead levels >3.5μg/dl obtained from finger stick samples will be confirmed using a venous blood sample.

C. …

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., and under the authority of R.S. 40:5, 40:1285.1; 40:1285.2; 40:1285.3; and 40:1285.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, LR 26:85 (January 2000), amended LR 27:52 (January 2001), LR 31:1588 (July 2005), LR 34:2173 (October 2008), amended by the Department of Health, Office of Public Health, amended LR 51:

§7007. Mandatory Case Reporting by Health Care

Providers

A. Medical providers must report a lead case, which is indicated by a blood lead test result of >3.5μg/dl (micrograms per deciliter), to the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Office of Public Health within 24 working hours to ensure appropriate and timely follow-up. All health care providers shall assure that all the following information is submitted to the testing laboratory with all ordered blood lead samples for analysis and/or submitted with all lead case reports to the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program:

A.1. – 14. …

B. Lead cases, along with the specified information shall be reported within 24 business hours by fax to the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Office of Public Health at 225-242-0496 and the original lead case reporting form shall be mailed within five business days to the Louisiana Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Office at 1450 Poydras St. Suite 1631, New Orleans, LA 70112.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., and under the authority of R.S. 40:5,40:1285.1; 40:1285.2; 40:1285.3; and 40:1285.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, LR 26:85 (January 2000), amended LR 27:52 (January 2001), LR 31:1588 (July 2005), LR 34:2174 (October 2008), amended by the Department of Health, Office of Public Health, amended LR 51:

§7009. Reporting Requirements of Blood Lead Levels by Laboratories and by Health Care Providers Performing Office-Based Blood Lead Analyses for Public Health Surveillance

A. Health care providers who conduct blood lead level screenings using a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waived blood lead analysis device to determine blood lead levels and clinical laboratories responsible for conducting analysis to determine blood lead levels for health care providers and/or for referring laboratories, shall also report all results to the Louisiana Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program by electronic transmission in a format consistent with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for uniform reporting of blood lead results to state and local health departments as available at https://ldh.la.gov/page/electronic-laboratory-reporting-elr-in-louisiana.

B. – B.2. …

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 49:950 et seq., and under the authority of R.S. 40:5,40:1285.1; 40:1285.2; 40:1285.3; and 40:1285.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, LR 26:85 (January 2000), amended LR 27:53 (January 2001), LR 31:1588 (July 2005), LR 34:2174 (October 2008), amended by the Department of Health, Office of Public Health, amended LR 51:

Family Impact Statement

The proposed rule is not anticipated to have an impact on family, formation, stability, and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

Poverty Impact Statement

The proposed rule is not anticipated to have an impact on any child, individual, or family as defined by R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis

Pursuant to R.S. 49:965.6, methods for reduction of the impact on small business, as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, have been considered when creating this proposed rule. This proposed rule is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on small businesses; therefore, a Small Business Economic Impact Statement has not been prepared.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on staffing requirements, qualifications, and cost for providers as defined by HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed Rule. Such comments must be received no later than July 10, 2025 at close of business, 4:30 p.m., and should be addressed to Jonathan Whipple, Program Monitor, Louisiana Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, P.O. BOX 60630, New Orleans, LA 70160

 or emailed to Jonathan Whipple at jonathan.whipple@la.gov.

Public Hearing

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing either by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2025. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:961(B)(1)) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 25, 2025, in Room 117 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after Thursday, July 10, 2025. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez Garage may be available to public hearing attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Bruce D. Greenstein

Secretary

Ralph L. Abraham, M.D.

Surgeon General