

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 20 - 26, 2019**

- WHEREAS,** *Every Marylanders deserves to grow up in a healthy, safe environment free from the irreversible effects of lead exposure; and and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland has made significant progress in reducing the number of young citizens exposed to this preventable disease by more than 98 percent since 1996; however, 390 children were identified as lead poisoned statewide in 2018; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland continues to work to increase testing of all children statewide, regardless of risk factors, because lead has no boundaries; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Because lead interferes with normal brain development, and is associated with reduced IQ, learning disabilities and behavioral disorders, affecting the lifelong potential of our youngest citizens, Marylanders' are encouraged to have their children tested for lead at one and two years of age; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland has adopted a new lower "Reference Level" of $\geq 5\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ to initiate lead case management of all children less than 6 years of age; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland collaborates with federal, state and local partners to ensure a lead-safe environment for all Marylanders, by developing and enforcing polices that support the prevention of lead exposure.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 20 - 26, 2019 as LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observance to our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 20th day of October
Two Thousand and nineteen

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Robert K. Lutherford
Lt. Governor

John C. W. W. W.
Secretary of State