

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

### **LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 22 - 28, 2017**

- WHEREAS,** *Children are the most important part of our future and they deserve to live in an environment that is free from the harmful effects of lead exposure; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland has made significant progress in reducing the number of young citizens exposed to this toxin by more than 98 percent since 1996, however, 355 children were identified as lead poisoned statewide in 2016; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Because there is no safe level of lead, testing of all children in Maryland at ages one and two years of age is imperative for early intervention; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland recognizes the significance of early intervention by introducing a \$7.2 million initiative to reduce lead paint hazards in homes built prior to 1978; and*
- WHEREAS,** *While lead-based paint hazards in housing remains the most significant cause of childhood lead poisoning in Maryland, there are other potential sources of lead such as candy, makeup, spices and water that must also be investigated; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Marylanders planning to buy, rent or renovate a home built prior to 1978 should educate themselves about the dangers of lead before they ensure contractors performing renovations are properly trained and accredited and use safe work practices.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 22 - 28, 2017 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October  
Two Thousand and seventeen

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Robert K. Wittberg*  
Lt. Governor

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