

(c) The Secretary shall target efforts to promote and to provide BLOOD TESTS FOR lead poisoning [screening to areas of highest] IN AT risk AREAS, as identified by:

(1) Census tract AND ZIP CODE information noting areas with large concentrations of pre-1978 housing; {and}

(2) Highest rates of lead poisoning as evidenced by information provided to and by the Childhood Lead Registry established and maintained by the Department of the Environment; AND

~~(3) THE GUIDELINES OF THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION IN "THE SCREENING OF YOUNG CHILDREN FOR LEAD POISONING: GUIDANCE FOR STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS (NOVEMBER 1997)" AND ANY SUBSEQUENT GUIDELINES.~~

(D) THE SECRETARY SHALL REQUIRE PROVIDERS CARING FOR CHILDREN IN AREAS DESIGNATED AS AT RISK FOR LEAD POISONING, AS DETERMINED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, TO ADMINISTER A BLOOD TEST FOR LEAD POISONING OF CHILDREN BY:

(1) AGE 12 MONTHS;

(2) AGAIN BY AGE 24 MONTHS; OR

(3) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES OF THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION FOR CHILDREN OVER AGE 24 MONTHS WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED A BLOOD TEST FOR LEAD POISONING.

(E) THE SECRETARY MAY INCLUDE INFORMATION ON BLOOD TESTING FOR LEAD POISONING COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION, § 7-403 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE, AND §§ 6-303 AND 6-304 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE ON ANY IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(F) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THIS SECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE BLOOD TESTING OF A CHILD WHOSE PARENT OR GUARDIAN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE SECRETARY, OBJECTS TO THE TESTING ON THE GROUND THAT IT CONFLICTS WITH THE PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S BONA FIDE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES.

(2) PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY IF THE RESPONSES OF THE CHILD'S PARENT OR GUARDIAN ON A QUESTIONNAIRE FURNISHED BY THE SECRETARY AND ADMINISTERED BY A PEDIATRICIAN INDICATE THAT THE CHILD IS AT HIGH RISK FOR LEAD POISONING.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

May 18, 2000

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate