



January 15, 2019

Ald. Milele A. Coggs
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Council approves legislation concerning the Milwaukee Health Department's lead reporting processes and water filter distribution plans

The Common Council approved two resolutions on January 14, 2019 directing the Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) to put processes in place addressing elevated blood-lead levels, and also developing a plan to distribute water filters to residents at risk for exposure to lead in their drinking and cooking water.

Both resolutions – Council Files #181216 and #181218 – were introduced by **Alderman Milele A. Coggs** and approved unanimously by the Common Council. **Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, Alderman Cavalier Johnson, Alderman Khalif J. Rainey, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Alderwoman Chantia Lewis** and **Alderman José G. Pérez** co-sponsored the legislation

File #181216 directs the MHD Commissioner to establish a defined process to address cases of elevated lead levels in children as detected in blood tests. File #181218 directs the Health Commissioner, in collaboration with the Milwaukee Water Works, to develop a water filter distribution plan for residents at risk of exposure to lead in their drinking water.

“The health, safety and well-being of Milwaukee’s residents are our highest priorities, especially concerning our children,” said Ald. Coggs. “The Council must know how our children are being exposed to lead hazards in their environment so we can establish a specific process to address cases of elevated blood levels swiftly and effectively.”

“We know that installing and correctly using certified water filters is the best way to minimize lead in our drinking water,” continued Ald. Coggs. “This legislation directs our health and water officials to develop a plan to use this effective tool the best way we can.”

The MHD Commissioner is required to report back to the Council on both plans/processes by March 31, 2019.