

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, exposure to lead can cause irreversible and life-long health effects in children, and has been shown to result in learning and behavior problems even at low levels; and

WHEREAS, there is no safe blood lead level in children; and

WHEREAS, lead is especially dangerous to children less than 6 years of age; and a blood lead test is the only way to know if a child has been exposed to lead hazards; and

WHEREAS, in Kansas from 2015 to 2021, on average the annual number of children less than 6 years old tested for lead poisoning was 23,149; which represents 10.2 percent of the children less than 6 years old in the state; and

WHEREAS, blood lead poisoning is highly preventable; and there are simple steps that can be taken to protect all Kansans from lead hazards in the home and workplace; and

WHEREAS, education and awareness about the dangers of lead can help protect the lives of children living in Kansas; and all Kansans should be aware of this potential threat to their health and act now to reduce the risks of lead poisoning.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim, October 2023, as

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Awareness Month

in the state of Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka under the Great Seal of the State this 1st day of October, A.D. 2023

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary of State