

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 86**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Urges President and Congress to enact the “Opportunity Zone Lead Remediation Impact Act of 2019.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



SCR86 LAGANA

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1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** urging the President and Congress of
2 the United States to enact the “Opportunity Zone Lead
3 Remediation Impact Act of 2019.”

4
5 **WHEREAS**, Lead negatively impacts thousands of American children
6 each year and is a preventable occurrence; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Lead exposure is associated with health problems, poor
8 academic performance, behavioral health problems, and can occur
9 through exposure to air, drinking water, food, contaminated soil,
10 and paint; and

11 **WHEREAS**, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
12 has declared that there is no safe level of lead, as even low-level
13 exposure can have a long-term, negative impact on children; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The American Academy of Pediatrics has described lead
15 exposure as “a causal risk factor for diminished intellectual and
16 academic abilities, higher rates of neurobehavioral disorders such as
17 hyperactivity and attention deficits, and lower birth weight in
18 children”; and

19 **WHEREAS**, The CDC has found that roughly 23 million housing units,
20 with most units built prior to 1960, have one or more lead-based
21 paint hazards, where young children under age six are endangered
22 by chipping or peeling lead paint or excessive amounts of lead-
23 contaminated dust; and

24 **WHEREAS**, According to the CDC, there were over 88,000 new cases
25 of lead poisoning in the United States in 2016; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Historically, the federal government has had a role in
27 correcting home health hazards to support the provision of decent,
28 safe, and sanitary housing for families in the United States; and

29 **WHEREAS**, The “Opportunity Zone Lead Remediation Impact Act of
30 2019,” (H.R. 4011), requires all pre-1978 residential properties that
31 are rehabilitated, repaired, or redeveloped through investment
32 supported by opportunity zone tax benefits to receive lead risk
33 assessments and remediation, and that developers who invest in
34 opportunity zones donate at least two percent of amounts invested
35 into a lead hazard remediation fund; and

36 **WHEREAS**, An opportunity zone is an economically-distressed
37 community where new investments, under certain conditions, may
38 be eligible for preferential tax treatment; and

39 **WHEREAS**, The enactment of the “Opportunity Zone Lead
40 Remediation Impact Act of 2019” would protect children and
41 families by ridding struggling communities of lead; now, therefore,

42

43 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the*
44 *General Assembly concurring):*

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46 1. The President of the United States and Congress are urged to
47 enact the “Opportunity Zone Lead Remediation Impact Act of

SCR86 LAGANA

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1 2019” to protect children and families would protect children and
2 families by ridding struggling communities of lead.

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4 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
5 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
6 Secretary of the Senate to the President of the United States and
7 every member of the New Jersey Congressional delegation.

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10 **STATEMENT**

11

12 This resolution urges the President and Congress to enact the
13 “Opportunity Zone Lead Remediation Impact Act of 2019” (act).

14 Lead negatively impacts thousands of American children each
15 year and is a preventable occurrence. Lead exposure is associated
16 with health problems, poor academic performance, behavioral
17 health problems, and can occur through exposure to air, drinking
18 water, food, contaminated soil, and paint. The Centers for Disease
19 Control and Prevention (CDC) has declared that there is no safe
20 level of lead, as even low-level exposure can have a long-term,
21 negative impact on children. The CDC has found that roughly 23
22 million housing units, with most units built prior to 1960, have one
23 or more lead-based paint hazards, where young children under age
24 six are endangered by chipping or peeling lead paint or excessive
25 amounts of lead-contaminated dust. According to the CDC, there
26 were over 88,000 new cases of lead poisoning in the United States
27 in 2016.

28 The act requires all pre-1978 residential properties that are
29 rehabilitated, repaired, or redeveloped through investment
30 supported by opportunity zone tax benefits to receive lead risk
31 assessments and remediation, and that developers who invest in
32 opportunity zones donate at least two percent of amounts invested
33 into a lead hazard remediation fund. An opportunity zone is an
34 economically-distressed community where new investments, under
35 certain conditions, may be eligible for preferential tax treatment.