

HB319 INTRODUCED



1 HB319
2 BY16AJQ-1
3 By Representative Wood (R)
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
5 First Read: 22-Jan-26



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 Under existing law, the Alabama Lead Ban Act
6 defines the term "lead-free" as not more than .2
7 percent of lead with respect to solder and flux and not
8 more than eight percent of lead with respect to pipes,
9 fittings, joints, and liners.

10 This bill would revise what constitutes
11 "lead-free."

12 This bill would require city and county plumbing
13 codes to conform to the revision.

14 This bill would provide exceptions from
15 lead-free requirements for certain materials and
16 applications.

17 This bill would also make nonsubstantive,
18 technical revisions to update the existing code
19 language to current style.

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23 A BILL

24 TO BE ENTITLED

25 AN ACT

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27 Relating to the Alabama Lead Ban Act; to amend Sections
28 22-37-2 and 22-37-4, Code of Alabama 1975, to revise the



29 percentages of lead that constitute lead-free with respect to
30 solder, flux, and wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings,
31 plumbing fittings, and fixtures; to require city and county
32 plumbing codes to conform to this revision; to make
33 nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing
34 code language to current style; and to add Section 22-37-7 to
35 the Code of Alabama 1975, to provide certain applications
36 where lead-free requirements do not apply.

37 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

38 Section 1. Sections 22-37-2 and 22-37-4, Code of
39 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

40 "§22-37-2

41 ~~When used in~~For the purposes of this chapter~~and except~~
42 ~~where the context prohibits~~, the following~~words and~~ terms
43 ~~shall~~ have the following meanings:

44 (1) COMMISSION. The Alabama Environmental Management
45 Commission~~as created by Section 22-22A-6~~.

46 (2) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Environmental
47 Management~~as created by Section 22-22A-4~~.

48 (3) DIRECTOR. The Director of the Alabama Department of
49 Environmental Management.

50 (4) FEDERAL ACT. The federal Safe Drinking Water Act as
51 established by Public Law 93-523 and all subsequent
52 amendments.

53 **(5) LEAD-FREE.**

54 a. With respect to solder and flux, not containing more
55 than 0.2 percent lead.

56 b. With respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe



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57 fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures, not containing more
58 than a weighted average of 0.25 percent lead.

59 ~~(5)~~(6) PERSON. The same meaning as defined ~~by~~ in
60 Section ~~22-23-31~~(8) 22-23-31.

61 ~~(6)~~(7) PLUMBING CODE. Any established ordinance or code
62 used to establish material standards and construction
63 practices associated with the plumbing of ~~any~~ a house,
64 apartment, or building.

65 ~~(7) SUPPLIER OF WATER. The same as defined by Section~~
66 ~~22-23-31~~(9).

67 (8) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM. The same meaning as defined ~~by~~
68 in Section ~~22-23-31~~(11) 22-23-31.

69 (9) SUPPLIER OF WATER. The same meaning as defined in
70 Section 22-23-31.

71 ~~(9) LEAD-FREE. A solder or flux containing not more~~
72 ~~than 0.2 percent lead and pipes, fittings, joints, or liners~~
73 ~~containing not more than eight percent lead."~~

74 "§22-37-4

75 ~~All formally adopted city and county plumbing codes~~
76 ~~shall be amended within 12 months of May 10, 1988, to include~~
77 ~~the provisions of this chapter for installation and repair of~~
78 ~~plumbing facilities.~~ All proposed plumbing codes shall include
79 appropriate lead ban provisions as determined by the
80 department, prior to adoption. Notwithstanding Section
81 22-37-7, all previously adopted city and county plumbing codes
82 that are inconsistent with the meaning of the term
83 "lead-free," as provided in Section 22-37-2, shall be amended
84 to conform to the term not later than 12 months after October



85 1, 2026."

86 Section 2. Section 22-37-7 is added to the Code of
87 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

88 \$22-37-7

89 Any rule adopted pursuant to Section 22-37-3 or
90 prohibition provided in Section 22-37-6 regarding the import,
91 distribution, sale, or use of lead-free materials shall not
92 apply to any of the following:

93 (1) A pipe, pipe fitting, plumbing fitting, or fixture,
94 including a backflow preventer, which is used exclusively for
95 nonpotable services such as manufacturing, industrial
96 processing, irrigation, outdoor watering, or any other use
97 where the water is not anticipated to be used for human
98 consumption.

99 (2) A toilet, bidet, urinal, fill valve, flushometer
100 valve, tub filler, shower valve, fire hydrant, service saddle,
101 or water distribution main gate valve that is two inches in
102 diameter or larger.

103 (3) A clothes washing machine, emergency drench shower,
104 emergency face wash equipment, eyewash device, fire
105 suppression sprinkler, steam capable clothes dryer, or sump
106 pump.

107 Section 3. This act shall become effective on October
108 1, 2026.