OVERVIEW: Section 9G.8.(a) of S.L. 2021-180 provides $150 million in nonrecurring funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year for lead and asbestos remediation and abatement programs to benefit public school units and childcare facilities. This section allocates $32,812,500 in nonrecurring funds to fund a program for the testing and remediation of lead levels in drinking water at public school units and child care facilities. It also allocates $117,187,500 in nonrecurring funds to fund a program for lead paint abatement and asbestos abatement in public school units and child care facilities.

Section 9G.8.(b) of the act declares the Division of Public Health (DPH), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), as the lead agency responsible for administering the programs authorized by this section. DPH is directed to collaborate with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and its Division of Child Development and Early Education while serving in this capacity.

Section 9G.8.(c) of the act requires DPH and DPI to report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division on specified lead and asbestos remediation and abatement activities authorized by this section, broken down by county. The report is due within six months after all funds appropriated for the purposes of this section have been expended.

Section 9G.8.(d) of the act specifies that funds allocated under this section must remain available until depleted or on the date federal law requires the funds to be fully expended, whichever is earlier.

This section became effective July 1, 2021.