

Batula Abdi

[Baabdi2948@gmail.com](mailto:Baabdi2948@gmail.com)

February 5, 2024

RE: Support HB0097

To whom it may concern,

I hope this letter finds you well. As a passionate public health student and a mother of four, I am writing to express my unwavering support for HB0097. This crucial bill plays a vital role in safeguarding the health of our communities, especially the most vulnerable among us—our children. I firmly believe that every child deserves to thrive in both physical and mental well-being. Unfortunately, we are all too aware that no level of lead exposure is considered safe. The prevalence of lead poisoning is an alarming concern, but the reassuring truth is that it is 100% preventable.

Recently, during a routine health check-up for my children, I received shocking news. I discovered that where I leveled is a high-risk neighborhood, exposing my family to the potential dangers of lead. As a mother, there is nothing more important to me than the health of my children. The first step is being knowledgeable about potential health risks, so that one is better equipped to take proactive measures to ensure their well-being. In 2019, about 5.5 million deaths from heart diseases were linked to lead exposure (Sadasivam). It is not just about my family; every neighborhood deserves the right to be protected from such threats. By supporting HB0097, we are taking a crucial step towards creating healthier communities for everyone. I firmly believe that access to information about potential health risks empowers individuals to make informed decisions for the well-being of their families. Additionally, having laws in place at a preventative level such as requiring testing for arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury before packaging is essential. This ensures that vulnerable populations are protected.

In conclusion, I urge you to lend your support to HB0097. By doing so, we are collectively contributing to the creation of a safer and healthier environment for our children and future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Batula Abdi

[babdi2948@gmail.com](mailto:babdi2948@gmail.com)

#### Works Cited

Sadasivam N. (2021, July 15). *Study: Lead exposure killed more than 5 million people in one year*. Retrieved from [grist.org](https://grist.org):

<https://grist.org/health/study-lead-exposure-killed-more-5-million-people-one-year/>.