

Maine Passes 0.5% Lead Bill

Washington, D.C. Aug. 1 - A new Lead Poisoning Control Act (H.B. 1446) recently passed by the Maine legislature, defines any substance containing more than 0.5 per cent lead as lead-based.

As a result of NPCA representation and testimony, the Maine bill was adopted at 0.5 per cent, rather than 0.06 per cent, which was originally proposed.

The new law effective 90 days after the present legislative session adjourns, will:

1. Prohibit the use of lead-base substances on "exposed surfaces of dwellings, as well as any fixtures and other objects located on exposed dwelling surfaces; toys, and household furniture.
2. Prohibit the sale of lead-base substances intended for use on exposed dwelling surfaces.
3. Prohibit the sale of toys, household furniture, and fixtures finished with a lead-base substance.
4. Prohibit the sale of any lead-base substance unless it bears the warning statement approved by HEW.

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