



Wilma Chan ASSEMBLYWOMAN SIXTEENTH DISTRICT

CHAIRWOMAN, ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

California Legislature

August 23, 2006

Honorable Fabian Nuñez
State Capitol, Rm 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Speaker Nuñez:

It has come to my attention that a question has arisen regarding the language of Assembly Bill 1953. It is my intention that the requirements of Assembly Bill 1953 are enforceable for pipes, plumbing, fixtures and other components that can reasonably be construed as intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption through drinking or cooking. These devices include kitchen faucets, bathroom faucets, drinking fountain faucets and any other end-use devices intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption. The intent of the legislation is that the 0.25% lead content requirement would not apply to devices that can reasonably be described as not intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption. Such devices might include: fire hydrants; fittings and valves for wastewater distribution systems, decorative fountains, marine applications, air and vacuum appliances, bathtubs, showers, Roman tubs, sanitary sewer drains, irrigation sprinklers, toilets, urinals, bidets, laboratory uses, service sinks, whirlpools, spas therapy pools, and clothes washers; hose bibs, fittings, tees and splitters; flush valves; solenoid valves; pre-rinse assemblies that do not include an auxiliary spout or other outlet; bath tub faucets; shower heads and shower head adapters.

As California transitions to a lead-free plumbing market by 2010, it will be important that current, comprehensive information about the lead-free materials options is available to plumbing manufacturers. This information may facilitate the efficient implementation of AB 1953, including industry group assessments of the available materials with which the industry can work to meet the no-lead requirements of the bill.

My hope and desire is that plumbing manufacturers and California's water agencies work together, along with California's state and local public health agencies, to learn about the new public health standard of 0.25% maximum lead content established by my AB 1953 as quickly as possible. Such collaboration will help achieve timely and orderly implementation of its critical public health benefits to all California water consumers. It is imperative that the plumbing industry and state and local governments collaborate on the implementation of this new law to ensure an effective program for protecting Californians, in a manner that respects the needs of this important industry to continue to thrive in our state.

Sincerely,

WILMA CHAN
Assemblymember
16th District

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