

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 274

2026 Regular Session

Edmonds

May 28, 2026

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 274 by Senator Edmonds, recommend the following concerning the Reengrossed bill:

1. That the House Committee Amendments No. 7, 8, 10, and 11 proposed by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 11, 2026, be adopted.
2. That the House Committee Amendments No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, and 12, proposed by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 11, 2026, be rejected.
3. That the House Floor Amendments No. 2, 3, 4, and 5 proposed by Representative Ventrella and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 13, 2026, be adopted.
4. That the House Floor Amendment No. 1 proposed by Representative Ventrella and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 13, 2026, be rejected.
5. That the following amendment be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

In House Committee Amendments No. 10 proposed by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 11, 2026, on page 2, at the end of line 18, insert:

"However, renovated buildings shall qualify for a limited scope risk assessment when determined appropriate by a certified risk assessor based on the nature and extent of renovations completed. The limited scope risk assessment shall include soil samples, if bare soil is present."

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Rick Edmonds

Representative Lauren Ventrella

Senator Bob Hensgens

Representative Brett F. Geymann

Senator Kirk Talbot

Representative Chad Boyer

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

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Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. Provides for lead hazard risk assessments. (8/1/26)

Report adopts House amendments to:

1. Requires that risk assessments look for lead hazards in paint, dust, and soil.
2. Limits the requirement of a risk assessment to facilities that open on or after August 1, 2026.
3. Requires the results of the risk assessment be attached to the application for any facility that requires a license.
4. Provides for the effects of a risk assessment that finds lead hazards, including reporting requirements and remediation prior to operating.
5. Provides for reports of the absence of lead hazards and instances where further lead testing may be required subsequent to a report of the absence of lead hazards.
6. Requires the department to provide prospective facility owners, operators, and governing authorities with a list of person qualified to perform lead testing.
7. Removes the requirement for risk assessment be conducted no fewer than 30 calendar days prior to the commencement of operations.
8. Removes requirement for the notice of the receipt of applications to the departments.
9. Requires the state Department of Education to provide notice of requirements to facilities that do not require a license.
10. Makes technical changes.

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Added early learning centers to the definition of "child-occupied facility".

Report amends the bill to:

1. Adds a limited scope risk assessment for renovated buildings when determined appropriate by a certified risk assessor.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to establish a program for the collection and analysis of data on lead hazard detection and reduction activities and on the certification, accreditation, and enforcement activities of the department.

Present law requires the owner of any licensed day care center, preschool, or public or nonpublic elementary school facility that qualifies as a child-occupied facility and that was first placed in operation after Aug. 1, 2012, to have an inspector conduct an inspection of the facility and grounds for the presence of lead hazards. Present law provides exceptions if the facility has been inspected or subject to abatement or remediation since 1978, requires maintenance of documentation, and requires reporting of findings to the state health officer and the secretary. Present law authorizes the secretary to enter into agreements with the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to implement these provisions.

Proposed law authorizes the secretary to establish and administer a program for the collection, analysis, and reporting of data related to lead hazard detection and reduction activities.

Proposed law revises the entities subject to lead hazard review to include the owner, operator, or governing authority of proposed licensed early learning centers, a daycare center subject to federal daycare center licensing requirements, public prekindergarten programs that are part of a public elementary school, or an approved nonpublic prekindergarten program that are part of an approved nonpublic elementary school. Requires the entity meet the definition of a child-occupied facility and begin operating on or after Aug. 1, 2026.

Proposed law replaces the requirement for an inspection by an inspector with a requirement for a risk assessment conducted by a risk assessor and requires a risk assessment of the facility and grounds for lead hazards in paint, dust, and soil.

Proposed law requires that results of the risk assessment be attached to the original application for licensure by any state department for the facility to operate.

Proposed law provides that a risk assessment is not required if the facility or its grounds has been inspected, has had a risk assessment, or has been the subject of lead abatement or remediation since 1978, and clarifies that only portions not previously addressed are subject to the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law requires the owner, operator, or governing authority to maintain and make available upon request documentation demonstrating compliance with applicable federal and state requirements.

Proposed law requires, prior to issuance of a license for operation, submission of the results of the risk assessment to the DEQ, Dept. of Education (DOE), and LDH, in a form and manner prescribed by the department.

Proposed law expands reporting requirements so that findings are reported to the state health officer, LDH, DOE, and the secretary.

Proposed law authorizes the secretary to enter into a memorandum of agreement with LDH and DOE to implement proposed law.

Proposed law provides that if the risk assessment finds lead hazards, the department must notify the DOE and LDH and the facility cannot commence operations until lead hazard control methods have been conducted and confirmed by the department.

Proposed law provides that once the department, DOE, and LDH receive a report of the absence of lead hazards, no further lead testing is required to open the facility. Further testing may be required if major renovating or remodeling is undertaken at the facility or if lead hazards are subsequently discovered on the premises.

Proposed law requires a limited scope risk assessment for renovated buildings when determined appropriate by a certified risk assessor. Further provides that the limited scope risk assessment include soil samples if bare soil is present.

Proposed law requires the department to provide a prospective owner, operator, or governing authority of a facility with a list of persons qualified to perform lead testing.

Proposed law provides that the state DOE shall provide notice of the requirements of proposed law to facilities requiring licensure pursuant to present law (R.S. 17:407.31) et seq.

Further provides that for facilities not licensed by the state DOE, the DOE shall publish information regarding risk assessments.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 30:2351.28)