



**A VOICE FOR CHOICE  
ADVOCACY**

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR SB210 (Leyva)**

**Pupil health: drinking water**

April 17, 2017

Dear CA Senators and Assembly Members,

A Voice for Choice Advocacy asks for your **AYE VOTE on SB210**.

A Voice for Choice Advocacy is in support of SB210 and we ask for your support in passing SB210 which aims to ensure that water in schools throughout California is free from elevated levels of lead by requiring schools to test their water fixtures, provide lead free water for students, and inform parents of lead contamination.

Elevated lead levels in California is a growing concern. According to Reuters, 14% of children showed lead levels greater than the current thresholds set by the Centers for Disease Control. Reuters further found that lead levels in 29 neighborhoods were equal or greater to levels found in Flint, Michigan. The problem is widespread across California but more prevalent in poorer areas of the Central Valley with 3000 locals having poisoning rates double those found in Flint. Tainted drinking water is one source of poisoning levels of lead, including water found in school drinking fountains and cafeterias.

Although the increased levels in lead in California is greater than what is addressed in this bill, and we would like to see all water tested and mitigated for lead where there are elevated levels, this is an important step towards doing that. For this reason, we ask that you support SB210 as well as future legislation aiming to expose and mitigate the problems of lead poisoning from water in California.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Christina Hildebrand*

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Giving issues a voice, A Voice for Choice Advocacy advocates for people's rights to be fully informed about the composition, quality, and short- and long-term health effects of all products that go into people's bodies, such as food, water, air, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.