

1       **B4: Calling for a Global Ban on Lead Use in Residential Indoor and Outdoor**  
2       **Paints, Children’s Products, and All Nonessential Uses in Consumer Products**

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4       Lead is a malleable metal previously used to improve the durability, color luster, and  
5       drying of paint used in homes and other buildings.<sup>1</sup> Lead is also found in some commonly  
6       imported consumer products, including vinyl and metal toys, children’s furniture, candy,  
7       folk and traditional medicines, ceramic dinnerware, trinkets and other consumer  
8       products.<sup>2-5</sup> Exposure to lead in toy jewelry has resulted in childhood fatality.<sup>6</sup> Lead in  
9       paint has been scientifically linked to harm and impaired intellectual and physical growth  
10      in children.<sup>4-12</sup> These uses of lead are all non-essential and pose serious public health  
11      threats.

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13      Recent reports have found that major countries, including India, China, Malaysia, and  
14      Nigeria, still produce and sell consumer paints with dangerously high lead levels (well  
15      over 100,000 parts per million compared with the US Consumer Product Safety  
16      Commission Standard of 600 parts per million).<sup>13, 14</sup> Some paint manufacturers are  
17      marketing lead-based paints in countries without enforcement of lead-content  
18      restrictions.<sup>15</sup>

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20      Currently, 38 million US housing units have lead-based paint, of which 24 million have  
21      significant lead-based paint hazards.<sup>16, 17</sup> In 1978, the United States restricted lead  
22      content in paint after determining that people were being exposed to environmental  
23      hazards through lead in residential and toy paint.<sup>18</sup> It is well known that there are lower

1 toxicity substitutes for lead in paint, such as titanium and zinc.<sup>19-21</sup> The most recent  
2 published estimate from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows  
3 that blood lead levels in non-Hispanic black children were still higher than in non-  
4 Hispanic white or Mexican-American children, although the proportion of blood lead  
5 levels  $\geq 10$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  in this population decreased 72% since 1991-94; the CDC data show  
6 that 310,000 children ages 1-5 in the U.S. from 1999-2002 had blood lead levels  $\geq 10$   
7  $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ .<sup>22</sup>

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9 The American Public Health Association (APHA) has previously issued policy  
10 statements regarding childhood lead poisoning.<sup>23-26</sup> This proposed policy archives APHA  
11 resolutions 69-02 and associated amendment 70-1, because the standards and  
12 terminology in those resolutions are antiquated.

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14 APHA believes that continued lead-based paint production and the non-essential use of  
15 lead in children's and other consumer products poses a global public health threat that is  
16 entirely preventable and urges—

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18 All trade agreements between US corporations and overseas corporations and all global  
19 trade agreements completed by the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, and other  
20 entities and other relevant international conventions include provisions that formally and  
21 effectively ban the use of lead in residential paint and children's products and that all  
22 such agreements ban the nonessential use of lead in all consumer products.

23

1 The removal of lead in all paint and in all children's consumer products.

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3 Agencies of the US federal government, including, but not limited to, the Consumer  
4 Product Safety Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department  
5 of Commerce, be directed to enforce a ban on the manufacture, import, distribution, and  
6 sale of all children's and consumer products containing nonessential lead and, together  
7 with the private sector, devise and implement a robust and effective monitoring and  
8 quality control and quality assurance program.

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10 The expeditious completion by the Consumer Product Safety Commission and ASTM  
11 International of a lead-in-vinyl standard.

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