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John Bing, Paralegal**HOUSE BILL 26-1391****SAFE DRINKING WATER IN CHILD CARE CENTERS AND SCHOOLS [CODIFIED AT COLO. REV. STAT. § 25-8-901-905; §22-30.5-530; §22-32-151; §26.5-5-329 AND 309]**

This is an amendment to the “eligible school” definition which previously included preschool through eighth grade. The statute now applies through twelfth grade. Any money remaining in the school and child care clean drinking water fund as of June 29, 2029, is to revert back to the general fund on that date.

On or before May 31, 2027, eligible schools serving high school students (grades 9-12) must test their drinking water sources by having a state-certified laboratory measure the lead content of water drawn from each drinking water source. The testing must comply with the latest federal guidance on proper sampling for testing for the presence of lead in drinking water.

The department of public health and environment will provide training to each eligible school serving high school students on matters including, but not limited to, filter maintenance, lead testing, and flushing protocols. And the department, on or before July 1, 2027, must adopt rules establishing how a child-care center will demonstrate compliance with the requirements concerning testing for the presence of lead in drinking water.

