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Title: Resolution calling upon the Congress of the United States of America to pass, and President Bush to sign, S. 1228, the Home Lead Safety Tax Credit Act of 2003.

Sponsors: Bill Perkins, Maria Baez, Charles Barron, Gale A. Brewer, Yvette D. Clarke, Leroy G. Comrie, Jr., Bill De Blasio, Helen D. Foster, Alan J. Gerson, John C. Liu, G. Oliver Koppell, Robert Jackson, Christine C. Quinn, Philip Reed, Jose M. Serrano, Kendall Stewart, David Yassky, Erik Martin Dilan, Margarita Lopez, Michael E. McMahon, Hiram Monserrate, Larry B. Seabrook, Diana Reyna

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Res. No. 998

Resolution calling upon the Congress of the United States of America to pass, and President Bush to sign, S. 1228, the Home Lead Safety Tax Credit Act of 2003.

By Council Members Perkins, Baez, Barron, Brewer, Clarke, Comrie, DeBlasio, Foster, Gerson, Liu, Koppell, Jackson, Quinn, Reed, Serrano, Stewart, Yassky, Dilan, Lopez, McMahon, Monserrate, Seabrook and Reyna

Whereas, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that in the United States approximately 434,000 children between age one and age five have blood lead levels greater than the CDC's recommended maximum blood level of 10 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood; and

Whereas, According to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 3,985 children in New York City were newly identified in 2002 as having blood lead levels of 10 micrograms per deciliter or greater; and

Whereas, Lead poisoning can cause learning disabilities, behavioral problems, and even seizures, comas, and death; and

Whereas, The CDC reports that approximately 24 million housing units in the United States have deteriorated lead-based paint and elevated levels of lead-contaminated dust, and more than four million of these dwellings house one or more young children; and

Whereas, Young children can ingest lead dust and paint chips from peeling, chipping, or crumbling paint; and

Whereas, Children living in poor areas with dilapidated housing are at higher risk of being lead poisoned because of the higher incidence of lead-based paint in old buildings; and

Whereas, The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene acknowledges that pre-school children, African-American and Latino children, and children living in certain low-income neighborhoods, particularly in Brooklyn, are disproportionately affected; and

Whereas, United States Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Mike DeWine of Ohio introduced S. 1228, known as the "Home Lead Safety Tax Credit Act of 2003", on June 10, 2003; and

Whereas, The Home Lead Safety Tax Credit Act would provide a tax credit for owners of residential properties built before 1978 to help pay for abatement of lead-based paint hazards performed by a certified lead abatement contractor; and

Whereas, The statement of findings and purpose in S. 1228 recites that 15 percent of affected children are lead-poisoned by projects performed by remodelers who fail to follow appropriate safeguards to control lead dust; and

Whereas, The Home Lead Safety Tax Credit Act would therefore encourage homeowners to use certified abatement contractors for the abatement of lead-based paint hazards; and

Whereas, Owners would receive a maximum tax credit of 50 percent of the cost of the abatement, not to exceed 1500 dollars per dwelling unit; and

Whereas, The statement of findings and purpose in S. 1228 recites that current Federal lead abatement programs have resources sufficient to make only approximately 7,000 homes lead-safe each year; and

Whereas, The Home Lead Safety Tax Credit Act would encourage homeowners to remove lead-based paint hazards and protect children's

health and safety; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the Congress of the United States of America to pass, and President Bush to sign, S. 1228, the Home Lead Safety Tax Credit Act of 2003.

LS #2727

SJM

[1013]