

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 863

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Schrock, you're recognized to open on LB 863.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, this is referred to as the lead abatement bill. This bill is necessary in order for our Health Department to access federal money to be used for lead-based paint hazard abatement projects. The bill mirrors the language required under the federal act. Thus far the state of Nebraska has received just under \$1 million for its lead program. This act deals strictly with residential property and child-occupied facilities, including day cares, preschool centers and other like facilities where children may be at risk. This act is to require certification of those individuals who wish to conduct training courses and to conduct removal of lead-based paint. These definitions are from the federal act. It specifically excludes the owner or occupant from having to undertake any particular lead-based paint removal activity. It specifically excludes renovation, remodeling, landscaping or other activities where removal of lead-based paint is incidental and not the primary purposes. One variation from the federal act is in Section 12. Section 12 defines a visual lead hazard advisor. The reason for this category is to provide limited service to the individuals who do not live in Lincoln or Omaha. There are no certified abatement professionals outside of these two cities. Every other category of certified professional requires more hours of training and expensive equipment costing several thousands of dollars. This was suggested by the Health Department based on inquiries received from individuals who do not live in Lincoln or Omaha. That's pretty much a summary of what the bill does. We had hoped it would not be controversial, but we may not be quite so successful in that hope, and there is some concerns about what it might do to some schools. We will be looking at that between now and Select File, we don't believe it should be a big issue.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Does that conclude your opening, Senator Schrock? Are you done with your opening?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes.