

NEBRASKA

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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Jim Pillen, Governor

August 23, 2024

The Honorable Ben Hansen
Health and Human Services Committee
Nebraska Legislature
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Chairman Hansen:

The Department of Health and Human Services' statement on the explanation of effectiveness of the asbestos supervisor license is outlined below.

The asbestos supervisor license type is unique as they are the individuals qualified to direct the workers and maintain compliance with rules and regulations on an asbestos project. They are critical to ensure the proper performance of the work practices and integrity of the containment so that no asbestos fiber releases occur.

Workers would be left with no direction, no one would be responsible for compliance on a project. If an asbestos supervisor were no longer regulated, demolition and renovation projects would expose all occupants to a known carcinogen.

These regulations have been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These regulations have been effective to ensure people, especially children, have not been exposed to a known carcinogen that would have led to health issues in the prime of their life. The regulation of the asbestos industry has resulted in a reduction of asbestos-related health issues and deaths.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. Menefee".

Charity Menefee
Director, Division of Public Health