



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007**  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 226**

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**Chairperson:** Abbie Cornett  
**Committee:** Business and Labor  
**Date of Hearing:** January 22, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 226 would authorize the Department of Labor to issue special inspector licenses to inspectors employed by an Authorized Inspection Agency (AIA) so that the AIA inspector could perform boiler inspections in Nebraska. There is currently a nation-wide shortage of boiler inspectors. Most states, including Nebraska, cannot find enough inspectors to fill their vacant inspector positions. Three of Nebraska's four boiler inspector positions are presently vacant and efforts to hire additional qualified inspectors have been unsuccessful.

Nebraska law currently only allows inspections of boilers to be made by inspectors employed by the Department of Labor and insurance companies. The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors recently changed its rules to provide for the licensing of private inspection companies, AIAs, to perform boiler inspections. A boiler inspector employed by an AIA has the same qualifications as a boiler inspector employed by the state or an insurance company.

LB 226 would maintain all current boiler construction, installation and inspection standards, but would allow inspectors employed by an AIA to perform boiler inspections. In addition, LB 226 would specifically authorize the Department to contract with an AIA to perform boiler inspections on behalf of the Department as needed. LB 226 will shift the primary focus of the Department of Labor to initial installation inspections and give a boiler owner three options for obtaining the required annual inspection of its boiler, by an insurance company insuring the boiler, an AIA, or the Department of Labor.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Abbie Cornett**