

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 management planner license is outlined below.

The management planner license type is unique as they are the individuals qualified to inspect and assess hazards in schools and write the federally required management plan.

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires the use of a management planner to create and maintain a management plan for each public and private school. Those management plans were sent to the program as the custodian for the Governor. If we no longer had this license type, schools would not be in compliance with federal law. (EPA 763.80 subpart E). If an asbestos management planner were no longer regulated, demolition and renovation projects would expose all occupants to a known carcinogen. The duties of this license type could be combined with the duties of the limited management planner.

These regulations have been approved by the 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