

Stephanie Moraga-McHaley

Please consider enacting the 11.5.7 NMAC - Heat Illness and Injury Prevention rule. As the former occupational health epidemiologist for the NMDOH from 2003-2013, I am very aware of the toll heat can take on New Mexico's workers. I have seen evidence of unnecessary deaths in oilfields and agriculture because of the lack of protections for workers from heat. Furthermore, I am aware that people who work indoors may be as impacted as those who work outside. My son who is a high school math teacher has suffered 80 degree days in the classroom because of the lack of preparation on his employer's behalf. As a former health inspector I have witnessed punishing temperatures in restaurants, especially in dish rooms. I am pleased with the rule as written and hope that exceptions for certain industries, such as construction and transportation will not be considered. I understand that industry opposition is strong but this rule will save lives!