

# Vernon Hershberger

STOP wasting tax-payer money developing horrible and unwarranted job-killing regulations like this! The last thing we need is regulations that further kill the remaining good blue collar jobs left in our struggling state.

This Heat Illness & Injury Prevention regulation will drive a huge number of businesses out of state, and we don't need more of that. This will greatly hurt all workers not afforded the luxury to work in optimal air-conditioned settings, such as construction workers, oil & gas, agricultural, mining, etc. which are super-important for the state's budget. These are the industries that pay taxes & royalties that actually support the NMED, so please at least have some common sense to stop/kill this regulation. Let's please instead do things that will enable NM to succeed and start getting off the bottom of all the good lists.

Effete regulations like this will really hurt the poor and small businesses. It will put even more blue collar workers out of work, on welfare and increase already burgeoning homelessness. How will the state have budget for a larger welfare state that this will create with less industry tax revenue?

The net effect for the businesses that do not leave the state is that there will be no outdoor summer work in NM perhaps from June through September. Employers and their clients, ultimately NM consumers, can't afford to pay workers to rest 45 minutes for every 15 minutes worked when heat index conditions would so dictate by your disastrous proposed regulation. For instance, with the time-bomb that a concrete pour in the summer is, concrete workers can't work only 15 minutes of the hour as the concrete sets up and doesn't get properly placed and finished. It seems that this poorly thought regulation doesn't consider such well-known realities.

In NM's very dry normally low humidity climate, the arbitrary selection of 80F is a woefully onerous threshold of applicability. A regulation like this more warranted for other much hotter desert regions around Phoenix, Tucson, Las Vegas, nearly all Texas & humid regions of the South would have industry ground to a halt all summer in those areas. I used to work construction in the summer in Phoenix in 110F-plus temperatures, and contractors practices & workers bodies can safely accommodate such without a government-knows-best mandate approach like this.

It's regulations like this that really hurt everyone, really help no one (except safety consultants and injury lawyer parasites), and make NM a laughing stock in the pro-business states around us whose economies continue to thrive while NM struggles.

Please work on something more helpful to NM, like promoting non-parasitic industrial job creation and reducing crime and homelessness.

Sincerely,  
Vernon Hershberger, CHMM  
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