

By: Veasey

H.B. No. 2786

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain methods of asbestos removal.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 1954, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1954.064 to read as follows:

Sec. 1954.064. RULES PROHIBITING WET METHOD OF ASBESTOS REMOVAL; STUDY; REPORT. (a) In this section, "wet method" means a process for removing asbestos from a building by spraying areas that contain asbestos with water before the building is destroyed or the asbestos is removed.

(b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission by rule shall prohibit a person from using the wet method in an area in this state with a residential population density that is equal to or greater than the average population density per square mile of an urban area in the United States as determined by the United States Bureau of the Census.

(c) The department shall conduct a study to analyze the effects on the health of residents in areas described by Subsection (b) related to a possible previous exposure to asbestos from the use of the wet method.

(d) The department shall report the results of the study conducted under Subsection (c) to the House Committee on Public Health, or its successor, and the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, or its successor.

1 SECTION 2. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health and
2 Human Services Commission shall adopt the rules required by Section
3 1954.064, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not later than
4 January 1, 2006.

5 (b) The Department of State Health Services shall begin the
6 study required under Section 1954.064(c), Occupations Code, as
7 added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2006.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.