

provisions for extension, see section 15(c) of Pub. L. 101-637, set out as a note under section 2646 of this title.

**EPA ADMINISTRATOR NOT EXERCISING “STATUTORY AUTHORITY” UNDER OSHA LAW IN EXERCISING AUTHORITY UNDER THIS CHAPTER**

In exercising any authority under this chapter in connection with amendment made by Pub. L. 101-637, Administrator of Environmental Protection Agency not, for purposes of section 653(b)(1) of Title 29, Labor, to be considered to be exercising statutory authority to prescribe or enforce standards or regulations affecting occupational safety and health, see section 15(b) of Pub. L. 101-637, set out as a note under section 2646 of this title.

**§ 2648. Emergency authority**

**(a) Emergency action**

**(1) Authority**

Whenever—

(A) the presence of airborne asbestos or the condition of friable asbestos-containing material in a school building governed by a local educational agency poses an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health or the environment, and

(B) the local educational agency is not taking sufficient action (as determined by the Administrator or the Governor) to respond to the airborne asbestos or friable asbestos-containing material,

the Administrator or the Governor of a State is authorized to act to protect human health or the environment.

**(2) Limitations on Governor action**

The Governor of a State shall notify the Administrator within a reasonable period of time before the Governor plans to take an emergency action under this subsection. After such notification, if the Administrator takes an emergency action with respect to the same hazard, the Governor may not carry out (or continue to carry out, if the action has been started) the emergency action.

**(3) Notification**

The following notification shall be provided before an emergency action is taken under this subsection:

(A) In the case of a Governor taking the action, the Governor shall notify the local educational agency concerned.

(B) In the case of the Administrator taking the action, the Administrator shall notify both the local educational agency concerned and the Governor of the State in which such agency is located.

**(4) Cost recovery**

The Administrator or the Governor of a State may seek reimbursement for all costs of an emergency action taken under this subsection in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or for the district in which the emergency action occurred. In any action seeking reimbursement from a local educational agency, the action shall be brought in the United States District Court for the district in which the local educational agency is located.

**(b) Injunctive relief**

Upon receipt of evidence that the presence of airborne asbestos or the condition of friable as-

bestos-containing material in a school building governed by a local educational agency poses an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health or the environment—

(1) the Administrator may request the Attorney General to bring suit, or

(2) the Governor of a State may bring suit,

to secure such relief as may be necessary to respond to the hazard. The district court of the United States in the district in which the response will be carried out shall have jurisdiction to grant such relief, including injunctive relief.

(Pub. L. 94-469, title II, §208, as added Pub. L. 99-519, §2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2985.)

**§ 2649. State and Federal law**

**(a) No preemption**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed, interpreted, or applied to preempt, displace, or supplant any other State or Federal law, whether statutory or common.

**(b) Cost and damage awards**

Nothing in this subchapter or any standard, regulation, or requirement promulgated pursuant to this subchapter shall be construed or interpreted to preclude any court from awarding costs and damages associated with the abatement, including the removal, of asbestos-containing material, or a portion of such costs, at any time prior to the actual date on which such material is removed.

**(c) State may establish more requirements**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed or interpreted as preempting a State from establishing any additional liability or more stringent requirements with respect to asbestos in school buildings within such State.

**(d) No Federal cause of action**

Nothing in this subchapter creates a cause of action or in any other way increases or diminishes the liability of any person under any other law.

**(e) Intent of Congress**

It is not the intent of Congress that this subchapter or rules, regulations, or orders issued pursuant to this subchapter be interpreted as influencing, in either the plaintiff's or defendant's favor, the disposition of any civil action for damages relating to asbestos. This subsection does not affect the authority of any court to make a determination in an adjudicatory proceeding under applicable State law with respect to the admission into evidence or any other use of this subchapter or rules, regulations, or orders issued pursuant to this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 94-469, title II, §209, as added Pub. L. 99-519, §2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2986.)

**§ 2650. Asbestos contractors and local educational agencies**

**(a) Study**

**(1) General requirement**

The Administrator shall conduct a study on the availability of liability insurance and other forms of assurance against financial loss