

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB588

Chairperson: Senator Steve Lathrop

Committee: Business and Labor

Date of Hearing: February 28, 2011

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 588 is intended to expand statewide the protections and safety regulations created by the Conveyance Safety Act. Currently, the act only applies to counties with a population greater than 100,000 inhabitants (Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy counties).

The Conveyance Safety Act applies to the construction, operation, inspection, testing, maintenance, alteration, and repair of conveyances. The Conveyance Safety Act, as amended by LB 588, would require that no person shall wire, alter, replace, remove, or dismantle an existing conveyance unless such person is a licensed elevator mechanic or he or she is working under the general supervision of a licensed elevator mechanic. LB 588 excludes stairway chair lifts and platform lifts installed in a single family dwelling and elevators in private residences from requirements of the Conveyance Safety Act.

LB 588 changes the name of the "Conveyance Advisory Committee" to the "Conveyance Committee" and also changes the membership of the Committee. Upon the expiration of the terms of the current representatives of the general public from each county with a population of 100,000 or more (Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy), the Governor shall appoint a representative from three different counties, one of each representing urban interests, suburban interests, and rural interests.

LB 588 adds powers and duties of the Conveyance Committee, such as:

- The adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations for standard safety codes governing the operation, maintenance, servicing, construction, alteration, installation, and inspection of conveyances;
- The adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations for qualifications for licensure as an elevator mechanic, elevator contractor, and elevator inspector and conditions for disciplinary actions;
- The adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations for temporary and emergency elevator mechanic licenses;

- The potential recommendation to the Commissioner of Labor of legislative changes to the Conveyance Safety Act deemed appropriate by the Committee;
- The adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations for state standards for the equipment regulated under the act; and,
- The Committee may grant an exception or variance from the state standards or local ordinances, pending a hearing, and if such variances will not jeopardize the public safety and welfare.

LB 588 also transfers some responsibilities under the Conveyance Safety Act from the Commissioner of Labor to the Conveyance Committee.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Jeremy Nordquist