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COMMITTEES

DEPUTY WHIP APPROPRIATIONS INSURANCE URBAN AFFAIRS

MEMO

TO:

All House Members

FROM:

Representative Tom Killion

DATE:

January 12, 2011

SUBJECT:

Legislation - PA Elevator Act (former HB 1349)

In the near future, I will be reintroducing legislation to create a free standing act known as the "Pennsylvania Elevator Act," which would require that elevator contractors, elevator mechanics, and elevator inspectors be licensed by the Department of Labor & Industry. There is currently no state licensure requirement. The Department of Labor & Industry would administer the program and be responsible for ensuring compliance.

Under present law, the regulation of elevators, and the regulation of those that who inspect them is handled by the Department of Labor & Industry pursuant to the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act (Act 45 of 1999). Act 45 established the Uniform Construction Code (UCC), and part of the UCC requires that the department regulate the construction and inspection of elevators and other lifting devices. With respect to certification, Act 45 requires only that the elevator inspectors be certified; there are no requirements for certification of elevator contractors or elevator mechanics.

Currently, there are no education or training requirements in Pennsylvania for those who construct, maintain, and repair elevator equipment. At a House Labor Relations Committee hearing in May 2008, it was reported that elevators/escalators kill about 30 people annually in the nation and injure over 17,000 annually. It is my view that a licensing program is needed to protect the general public and to ensure that:

- 1) Workplace protective practices and training are adequate.
- 2) Employers have an adequate inspection and maintenance program.
- 3) Employers only use qualified workers for escalator and elevator repair.

Please contact Alison in my Harrisburg office at (717) 772-0855 or ahagler@pahousegop.com, if you would like to co-sponsor this legislation.

Previous Co-Sponsors: BELFANTI, BEYER, CIVERA, D. COSTA, GINGRICH, HENNESSEY, HESS, KORTZ, KOTIK, McILVAINE SMITH, MELIO, MILNE, MOUL, MURT, MYERS, PAYNE, REICHLEY, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY and VULAKOVICH