



Gable Elevator

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Testimony of Phillip M. Isaac
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Proponent of SB 308
Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce Committee

Chairman LaRose, Vice Chair Kunze, Ranking Member Schiavoni and members of the Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify as a proponent of Senate Bill 308 today.

My name is Phil Isaac, and I am the Vice President of Gable Elevator in Twinsburg, Ohio. Gable Elevator was founded in 1991 as a residential installer. We installed elevators and chair lifts. In 1992 we started to install commercial chair lifts. By 1997 we were installing LU/LAs and passenger elevators in commercial buildings.

Senate Bill 308 would move our industry in the right direction by requiring people to either get a CET certification or to go through the building trade and get NEIEP training. The bill would also require continuing education which is needed in Ohio.

In my company we use both CET and NEIEP trained technicians, and I am a CET Supervisor which means that I can train an apprentice. Of my 20 field employees, 16 were NEIEP trained and 4 were CET trained. In my company, we do residential and commercial work, but I would never hire anyone without NEIEP or CET training to install a residential elevator. SB 308 would require every elevator constructor in Ohio working in public building to be licensed.

Another provision of the bill that I think is important is the initial inspection for residential elevators and on the deed transfer. In some areas of the state the municipalities require an initial inspection when the elevator is installed. In some areas realtors will also call elevator companies to do a safety test as part of the



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home inspection. I think it makes sense to do this every time a house with an elevator in it sells to a new owner. When I look at a residential elevator I can tell if it was installed by untrained mechanic. Sometimes, the gap is too big between the gate and the door, which means an untrained company installed the elevator and did not follow A17.1 elevator codes. Sometimes the gap is big enough for a child to fit in and that can lead to tragedy—unfortunately it happens. We also check to make sure the elevator can carry the load and that the safety devices have not been bypassed and function as designed by the manufacture.

In my company, we take our responsibility to public safety very seriously. We already do a lot of the things that would be required by SB 308. We want to make sure that the public is safe and that our employees are safe. The best way that we have been able to figure out how to do that is to use the best and most highly trained and professional people. This bill would help make sure that our future pool of employees operate at the same high level that they do today.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important safety issue, and for giving this bill your consideration. I am happy to answer questions.

Phillip M. Isaac CET-S / QEI

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