



Everything You Need to Stay in the Home You Love

June 6, 2021

Ohio House of Representatives Commerce and Labor Committee

Comments in opposition of proposed HB 107 language as of April 2021

Representative Stein,

My name is David Fesman, president of Queen City Med Mart, a home accessibility and medical equipment company. We have been serving Ohio for over 30 years.

We take great pride in helping our elderly and disabled clients find ways to live more independently in their homes through home modifications such as stairlifts, ceiling lifts, elevators, and vertical platform lifts.

HB 107 as it currently stands puts small and mid-size local businesses at a large disadvantage. The additional costs, training, and regulation would put pressure on businesses already pushed to the edge from the current economic climate. Most of the home lift and elevator companies also do vertical platform lifts on smaller commercial projects to diversify their revenue streams. These projects are not the same installing an elevator in a skyscraper or other larger, more complex, elevator jobs as they are under 6 stops and have lower weight capacities. Other accessibility equipment, such as stairlifts, vertical platform lifts, and incline platform lifts are typically only two stories high. Requiring the same licensing as an elevator for a large building for these much smaller projects is excessive and unnecessary. Currently Ohio code requires submittal of drawings and a permit application and is then weight and safety tested prior to operation. This ensures the safety of the end user and keeps their cost as low as possible. Since these procedures will remain in place, the proposed requirement of additional licensing would be redundant and an extra step in an already functional regulatory process.

This would add an enormous burden to these companies and create smaller pool of commercial elevator installers. By increasing the company costs, adding regulation, and reducing competition, you would increase costs drastically for the end consumer who, in most cases, is on a fixed income. Our clients are not corporations who can afford additional costs to improve their quality of life.

In conclusion, there is already regulation on the work I am mentioning and already an inspection process. This will only create more paper pushing with no real changes to the inspection process and evaluation of properly installed equipment.

Thank you for your time and consideration in these matters, and I am looking forward to working toward a solution or compromise.

Best Regards,

David Fesman  
Queen City Med Mart, LLC

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