SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6143

As of January 19, 1998

Title: An act relating to enforcement of the elevator and other conveyances law.

Brief Description: Revising the regulation of elevators, escalators, and other conveyances.

Sponsors: Senators Schow, McAuliffe, Horn and Fraser; by request of Department of Labor

& Industries.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Commerce & Labor: 1/20/98.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & LABOR

Staff: Genevieve Pisarski (786-7488)

Background: The Department of Labor and Industries has identified five changes to laws regulating elevators that are needed to assure public and worker safety. These changes will make the definition of "conveyance" consistent with current industry standards; shift inspection of conveyances in grain elevators and grain terminals from the workplace safety and health program (WISHA) to the elevator program in order to ensure annual inspection and permitting; clarify that the public cannot use construction elevators; clarify that private residences, which were exempted from annual inspections in 1997, do not require operating permits; and increase the accountability of owners.

Summary of Bill: "Elevating device" is added to the definition of "conveyance" and a set of specific definitions of different elevating devices is added. Responsibility for inspecting conveyances located in grain elevators is returned to the elevator program. The "limited use" permit allows use for construction personnel, tools, and materials only. Private residence conveyances are exempt from an operating permit, unless requested. The Department of Labor and Industries is authorized to assess penalties, if owners fail to correct violations within ninety days of notification or fail to submit official notification of corrections made.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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