

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5340

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As Reported by Senate Committee On:  
Commerce, Labor & Sports, February 16, 2017

**Title:** An act relating to class B elevator work permits.

**Brief Description:** Concerning class B elevator work permits.

**Sponsors:** Senators Keiser, Baumgartner and Conway; by request of Department of Labor & Industries.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Commerce, Labor & Sports: 2/15/17, 2/16/17 [DP-WM].

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Authorizes the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) to issue Class B elevator work permits for the performance of Class B elevator work without the requirement of a witness inspection of the equipment before it is placed into operation.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, LABOR & SPORTS

**Majority Report:** Do pass and be referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

Signed by Senators Baumgartner, Chair; Braun, Vice Chair; Keiser, Ranking Minority Member; Conway, Hasegawa, King, Rossi, Saldaña and Wilson.

**Staff:** Jarrett Sacks (786-7448)

**Background:** L&I administers and enforces state laws regarding installation, operation, inspection, and repair of conveyances. Examples of conveyances include elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, stairway chair lifts, and moving walkways. In general, owners must obtain permits from L&I before conveyances are built, installed, moved, or altered. Conveyances must also have operating permits and are subject to safety inspections by L&I.

In general, conveyance work must be performed by a licensed elevator contractor employing a licensed elevator mechanic. The elevator contractor must notify L&I before completion of

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the work and subject the new, relocated, or altered portions of the conveyance to testing, and L&I must inspect the conveyance.

**Summary of Bill:** L&I may issue Class B elevator work permits for the performance of Class B elevator work without the requirement of a witness inspection of the equipment before it is placed into operation.

Class B elevator work means:

- minor alterations to conveyances that do not change the design or diminish the performance of the listed component or equipment; or
- installations of private residential stairway chair lifts.

Class B alterations must be done by a licensed elevator mechanic. Eligibility for Class B permits is dependent on an elevator contractor's demonstrated competency in consistently performing code-compliant work. L&I is required to inspect Class B work on a random basis.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members:** No.

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

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: The bill allows for more efficient administration of the elevator program, which will allow L&I to focus on more hazardous conveyances rather than minor projects.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Senator Karen Keiser, Prime Sponsor; Tammy Fellin, Labor & Industries; Tom McBride, National Elevator Industry, Inc.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** No one.