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# STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P. O. BOX 1149  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

Phone: 465-2700

January 15, 1982

The Honorable Bob Mulcahy  
Chairman, Senate Labor & Commerce Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Mulcahy:

Thank you for spending time to discuss the Department of Labor and legislation for the 1982 session. I mentioned to you that we were looking for a sponsor for several bills. One of these is "An Act relating to elevator safety standards".

This bill amends AS 18.60.800 to adopt the current American National Standards Institute Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators as the minimum elevator safety code for the state, and adopts the current National Safety Practice's inspector's manual as the guide for Department of Labor elevator inspectors.

The bill adds AS 18.60.830, to provide that municipalities may adopt their own standards as long as those standards are at least as stringent as those required under AS 18.60.800.

AS 18.60.810 is repealed in Section <sup>5</sup> of the bill. The current safety code adopted in section 1 of the bill requires an emergency power source for elevators, making AS 18.60.810 unnecessary.

Your consideration to sponsorship of this bill by the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee would be appreciated. A draft of the bill is enclosed with a fiscal note that is zero.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Judy Knight*

Judy Knight  
Special Assistant

Enclosures

# STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P. O. BOX 1149  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

Phone: 465-4870

February 17, 1982

The Honorable Bob Mulcahy, Chairman  
Senate Labor & Commerce Committee  
Pouch V, State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Mulcahy:

This is in response to the questions from your committee concerning Senate Bill #700, "An Act relating to Elevator Safety Standards." The question originally posed was how many elevators in the state do not meet the code concerning the installation of telephones for emergency use.

In reviewing this question with our elevator inspector in Anchorage I find that we do not have a definitive answer. When the Legislature first passed the Elevator Safety Code in 1978 the same standard was included in that code. In order to avoid a substantial capital investment by the owners of such elevators, we promulgated regulations (specifically 8.AAC 77.085, copy enclosed) which allowed the Department of Labor to issue a variance for any elevator not meeting the safety standard. Under an initial inspection of all elevators, if all other safety requirements were met a variance was issued for existing elevators which did not have the telephone installed at that time. The initial study by our elevator inspector showed that the cost of telephone installation in existing elevators to comply with this code would cost between \$5,000 and \$15,000 depending on the number of elevators in the building. The department did not feel that owners of buildings should have to incur these costs; therefore variances were issued for existing installations. New installations are now required to meet the safety codes.

Also attached for your information and review is a copy of our summary of those sections of the 1981 Safety Code which have been amended or changed from the 1978 Elevator Safety Code. Generally speaking, the new code brings into consolidation (1) the Basic Building Code; (2) the National Building Code; (3) the Standard Building Code; and (4) the Uniform Building Code with respect to fire resistance, ratings, earthquake protective devices, alteration, repairs and/or replacements. Therefore, all codes are uniform in addressing the safety codes for installation of elevators, escalators, etc.

The Honorable Bob Mulcahy  
February 17, 1982  
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The other important features which have been incorporated in the code are those regarding venting, as well as the operations of elevators under fire or other emergency conditions. These highlighted rules are enclosed for your review.

The department will be happy to provide additional information or further testimony. Please accept my apologies for the department's inability to thoroughly respond to the committee's questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

*Judy Knight*  
Judy Knight  
Special Assistant

JK/mjs  
D-59

Enclosures

(b) A person whose certificate of operation has been suspended, revoked, or denied may appeal the decision to the commissioner in the manner set out in sec. 130 of this chapter. (Eff. 10/21/79, Reg. 72)

Authority: AS 18.60.800  
AS 23.05.060(5)

**ARTICLE 3.  
INSPECTION FEES**

Section

65. Inspection fees

8 AAC 77.065. INSPECTION FEES. An owner of an elevator inspected by the department, shall pay the inspector upon completion of the inspection, the following fees:

- (1) elevator or workmen's hoist
  - (A) 1-3 floor stops ..... \$ 45.00
  - (B) 4-9 floor stops ..... 55.00
  - (C) 10-14 floor stops ..... 65.00
  - (D) 15-19 floor stops ..... 75.00
  - (E) 20-24 floor stops ..... 85.00
  - (F) 25-29 floor stops ..... 100.00
  - (G) Each additional 5 floor stops 25.00
- (2) escalator..... 45.00
- (3) moving walk..... 45.00
- (4) stage and orchestra lift ..... 45.00
- (5) dumbwaiter/manlift ..... 35.00
- (6) special inspections; travel, per diem expense and applicable time charge
  - (A) one-half day, four hours or less..... 75.00
  - (B) full day, four to eight hours. 150.00

(Eff. 10/21/79, Reg. 72)

Authority: AS 18.60.800

**ARTICLE 4.  
VARIANCES**

Section

85. Variances

8 AAC 77.085. VARIANCES. (a) The owner of an elevator desiring a variance from a safety standard adopted in or under AS 18.60.800 may file a written request for variance with the Director of the Wage and Hour/Mechanical Inspection Division, P.O. Box 630, Juneau, Alaska, 99811.

(b) A request filed under (a) of this section must include

- (1) the name and address of the applicant;
- (2) the name and address of the place where the apparatus is located;
- (3) specification of the standard or portion of it from which the applicant seeks a variance;
- (4) a statement of facts showing that the applicant is unable to comply with the standard and the alternate steps (with specific dates) which the applicant proposes to take in order to substantially comply with the standard;

(5) a statement addressing the effect a grant of a variance will have on the physical safety of persons in or around the elevator; and

(6) a statement of present steps the applicant has taken to safeguard persons against the hazards covered by the standard.

(c) After review of the request and the inspector's final recommendations, the director may approve or deny an application for a variance from a safety standard.

(d) The department denial of a variance from a safety standard may be appealed to the commissioner in the manner set out in sec. 130 of this chapter. (Eff. 10/21/79, Reg. 72)

Authority: AS 18.60.800  
AS 23.05.060(5)

**ARTICLE 5.  
VIOLATIONS**

Section

105. Violations

110. Remedy of violations

8 AAC 77.105. VIOLATIONS. (a) During the course of his inspection, the inspector will make a written note of any violations of the applicable safety standards that he has observed.

(b) At the close of an inspection, the inspector will review his findings with the owner of the elevator and provide him with copies of the inspection report. If the owner of the elevator is not present, the inspector will deliver to or

# MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

*Al Gordon*  
TO: Al Gordon, Deputy Director  
Division of Labor Standards & Safety

DATE: February 17, 1982

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 264-2447

*Don Cather*  
FROM: Don Cather, Chief  
Mechanical Inspection  
Division of Labor Standards & Safety

SUBJECT: Elevator Code

The 1981 edition of the elevator code has several changes which make it compatible with other uniform codes. Past editions of the elevator code had many of its own standards, which created problems for design engineers, because of differences between similar codes. Normally, the similar code is the Uniform Building Code.

The 1981 edition of the Elevator Code will reference the Uniform Building Code, thus allowing the mechanical engineer to use this standard uniform reference.

Some sections addressed in using the Uniform Building Code are:

Both Rule 100.1b, covering the fire rating of hoistways and Rule 100.4a covering venting of hoistways are covered by the Uniform Building Code.

Other major new changes for new elevators are:

Rule 204.4m Manual Opening of Car Door.

Passenger elevator car doors shall be so arranged that when a car is stopped within the landing zone and power to the door operator is cut off, the door may be moved by hand.

Rule 509.1 Emergency Signals.

A telephone connected to a central telephone exchange shall be installed in the car and an emergency signalling device operable from inside the car and audible outside the hoistway shall be provided.

Rule 211.3

When elevators are operated under fire or other emergency conditions and have a travel of more than 25 feet, the elevator shall have a emergency recall operations switch. This keyed switch opens the elevator car door at levels designated by the firemen.

Rule 1101.1

Outlines the recommended tests and frequency of elevator safety devices. These include testing the governor, stop buttons, hoistway safeties.

Al Gordon, Deputy Director  
February 17, 1982  
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Rule 1201.2b

Rule applies where major alterations are made to valves, piping, installation of electrical or mechanical interlocks which relate to the safety of the elevator.

Finally, one of the other major changes is in appendix F and covers seismic requirements. This appendix serves as a guide for design, construction, installation, and operation of elevators when installed in major seismic zones.

Should an owner have problems with the safety requirement regulation, 8 AAC 77.085 allows for a variance if a written request is received.

In most instances, a less-costly agreement has been reached with the elevator owner in buildings where there is not a telephone operator. An example is in schools where the elevator is used only for handicapped and may be operated only with a key. The school administrator closes the elevator at the end of each day taking it out of public usage.

DC:gs  
B:47



FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. Senate Bill No.  
 Title "An Act Relating to Elevator Safety Standards".  
 Requested by Senate Labor & Commerce Date 1/15/82

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Labor  
 Program Category Affected Public Protection  
 BRU, Program, Or Subprogram(s) Affected Labor Standards & Safety  
 (Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Source)						

POSITIONS

	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87
FULL TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instruction, Section III)

IV. DATE 1/15/82 PREPARED BY Judy Knight, Special Assistant  
 AGENCY Labor  
 Original: Legislative Finance PHONE 465-2700  
 cc: Budget and Management  
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)  
 33-001 (Rev. 12/81)