



National Elevator Industry, Inc.

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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS OFFICE

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February 14, 2012

Senator Will Espero, Chairman
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 224
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chairman Esperor:

National Elevator Industry Inc (NEII®) would like to submit this letter as its official statement in support of S.B. 2401, a bill to allow the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) to procure the services of qualified third party elevator inspectors as needed. NEII® member companies have significant operations across Hawaii, and we appreciate the opportunity to offer our support for S.B. 2401 today.

While the elevator industry understands the fiscal constraints currently facing the state of Hawaii, we are very concerned about the significant backlog of elevator inspections and the considerable safety issues that result. Allowing the use of qualified third party inspectors is a positive step to help reduce the accumulation of elevator inspections that are needed in the state and ensure the safety of the riding public.

In order to ensure that the third party inspectors meet industry standards, however, NEII® recommends that the bill define a “qualified elevator inspector” to be a person who has demonstrated that he/she meets the requirements of ASME QEI-1, Standards for the Qualifications of Elevator Inspectors and must complete continuing education each year to stay up-to-date on the applicable codes, technologies, standards and other important information.

NEII® is the premier national trade association representing the interest of firms that install, maintain and/or manufacture elevators, escalators, moving walks and other building transportation products, including parts or components. Its membership includes the major elevator companies in the United States, if not the world, and its members report more than eighty percent of the hours worked within the industry.

Again, NEII® would like to offer its support for S.B. 2401 and urges the committee to pass this proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the NEII® Government Affairs office at 785-286-7599 or via e-mail at ajblankenbiller@neii.org.

Sincerely,

Amy J. Blankenbiller

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