



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 269

LCO No. 1781



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT INSPECTORS AND INSPECTION FIRMS TO PERFORM ELEVATOR, ESCALATOR AND STATE BUILDING CODE INSPECTIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2020*) (a) The State Building
2 Inspector and the Codes and Standards Committee acting jointly, with
3 the approval of the Commissioner of Administrative Services, shall
4 establish a program to certify independent inspectors and independent
5 inspection firms to perform inspections under the State Building Code
6 for submission to a local building official. The program shall establish:
7 (1) One or more classifications of independent inspectors and
8 independent inspection firms, specifying the duties, responsibilities,
9 minimum qualifications and insurance requirements for each
10 classification of inspector or firm; and (2) an oversight and audit
11 program administered by the State Building Inspector to ensure the
12 consistency and quality of inspections performed by certified inspectors
13 and firms. The State Building Inspector may charge a reasonable fee to
14 apply for certification, provided the commissioner may waive such fee
15 for any person who applies, in the form and manner prescribed by the

16 commissioner, and demonstrates that the person is financially unable to
17 pay such fee.

18 (b) The State Building Inspector, with the approval of the
19 Commissioner of Administrative Services, shall establish a program to
20 certify independent inspectors and independent inspection firms to
21 perform elevator and escalator inspections for submission to the
22 Department of Administrative Services. The program shall establish: (1)
23 One or more classifications of independent inspectors and independent
24 inspection firms, including the duties, responsibilities, minimum
25 qualifications and insurance requirements for each classification of
26 inspector or firm; and (2) an oversight and audit program to ensure the
27 consistency and quality of inspections performed by certified inspectors
28 and firms. The commissioner may charge a reasonable fee to apply for
29 certification, provided the commissioner may waive such fee for any
30 person who applies, in the form and manner prescribed by the
31 commissioner, and demonstrates that the person is financially unable to
32 pay such fee.

33 Sec. 2. Section 29-193 of the general statutes is repealed and the
34 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

35 No new elevator or escalator shall be erected or installed and no
36 elevator or escalator shall be relocated or altered until detailed plans and
37 specifications of the proposed construction or other work have been
38 submitted in triplicate to the department for approval. [A fee of two
39 hundred fifty dollars for each elevator or escalator payable to the
40 department shall accompany each such proposal. Notice that such plans
41 are approved or disapproved shall be given within a reasonable time
42 and final inspection of the elevator or escalator, when installed,
43 relocated or altered, shall be made before final approval for operation is
44 given by the department. The department may issue a temporary
45 operating permit, if necessary, pending final inspection and approval.
46 The provisions of this chapter shall not prevent the operation of any
47 elevator installed for temporary use in connection with building
48 operations or the operation of any elevator for purposes connected with

49 the installation or the testing of the same.] A fee of two hundred fifty
50 dollars for each elevator or escalator payable to the department shall
51 accompany each such proposal. The department may issue a temporary
52 operating permit, if necessary, pending final inspection and approval.
53 In determining whether to approve such plans and specifications, the
54 department may rely on a review conducted by an independent
55 inspector or independent inspection firm certified by the department to
56 review plans and specifications pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1
57 of this act. Notice that such plans are approved or disapproved shall be
58 given within a reasonable time and final inspection of the elevator or
59 escalator, when installed, relocated or altered, shall be made before final
60 approval for operation is given by the department. The provisions of
61 this chapter shall not prevent the operation of any elevator installed for
62 temporary use in connection with building operations or the operation
63 of any elevator for purposes connected with the installation or the
64 testing of the same.

65 Sec. 3. Section 29-195 of the general statutes is repealed and the
66 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

67 Each elevator or escalator shall be thoroughly inspected by a
68 department elevator inspector, or an independent inspector or
69 independent inspection firm certified to perform such inspection by the
70 department pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1 of this act, at least
71 once each eighteen months, except elevators located in private
72 residences shall be inspected upon the request of the owner. More
73 frequent inspections of any elevator or escalator shall be made if the
74 condition thereof indicates that additional inspections are necessary or
75 desirable.

76 Sec. 4. Section 29-196 of the general statutes is repealed and the
77 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

78 As soon as the department approves any new, relocated or altered
79 elevator or escalator as being fit for operation, it shall issue to the owner
80 a certificate of operation for a capacity and speed specified in the

81 inspector's report. In determining whether to issue a certificate of
82 operation, the department may rely on the inspection and certification
83 conducted by an independent inspector or independent inspection firm
84 certified to perform such inspections and certifications by the
85 department pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1 of this act. The fee for
86 the certificate first issued shall be two hundred fifty dollars. Such
87 certificate shall be posted conspicuously in the car or cage or on the
88 platform of the elevator or escalator and shall be valid for twelve
89 months. Thereafter, the certificate shall be renewed every two years
90 upon receipt of the renewal fee of two hundred forty dollars, except that
91 elevators located in private residences shall not be subject to said
92 renewal requirement. No fee shall be required of the state or any agency
93 of the state. No elevator or escalator may be lawfully operated without
94 such certificate.

95 Sec. 5. Section 29-197 of the general statutes is repealed and the
96 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

97 If any elevator or escalator is found which, in the judgment of the
98 department, is dangerous to life [and] or property or is being operated
99 without the operating certificate required by section 29-196, as amended
100 by this act, the department may require the owner or operator of such
101 elevator or escalator to discontinue its operation forthwith, and the
102 department shall order a notice placed in or on the elevator or escalator
103 stating that the elevator or escalator is out of service. In determining
104 whether to order such discontinuance of operation, the department may
105 rely on the inspection conducted by an independent inspector or
106 independent inspection firm certified to perform such inspection by the
107 department pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1 of this act. When an
108 elevator or escalator has been placed out of service, the owner or
109 operator of such elevator or escalator shall not again operate the same
110 until repairs have been made and permission given by the
111 commissioner or [his] the commissioner's authorized agent to resume
112 operation of such elevator or escalator.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	29-193
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	29-195
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	29-196
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	29-197

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a program to certify independent inspectors and inspection firms to perform State Building Code and elevator and escalator inspections.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]