

Testimony of the Elevator Constructors Local 91
HB 5054, An Act Making Minor and Technical Changes to the
Department of Consumer Protection Statutes
February 23, 2012
(Public Hearing Date 2/21/12)

Dear Senator Doyle, Representative Taborsak, and members of the General Law Committee,

Please accept this written testimony on HB 5054, An Act Making Minor and Technical Changes to the Department of Consumer Protection Statutes. I have concerns with the new language proposed in Sec. 17, lines 539-545.

Currently, the Elevator Apprenticeship program registered with the Department of Labor is

a four year program. A four year apprenticeship allows for proper training and ensures the public safety of the citizens of Connecticut with respect to elevator installation, repair and maintenance work and we have considered increasing this time to five or six years in the future. It is critical that every person working on elevators in the state of Connecticut complete this apprenticeship. The apprenticeship was finalized and approved on October 7, 2002, and the underlying language was written prior to the apprenticeship being in place. Since the creation of the Elevator Apprenticeship, there are no elevator helpers as reference in Line 543, they are called apprentices.

I agree there is a need to update the current language to reflect current practice. However, by adding the word "or", it no longer makes an apprenticeship with the Connecticut Department of Labor required. We strongly believe that to maintain proper safety standards, only those who have completed a registered apprenticeship with the Connecticut Department of Labor should be granted a license for Elevator work.

Because, the only elevator apprenticeship program registered with the Connecticut Department of Labor is a minimum four year program and no one is currently receiving elevator helpers licenses, **we would recommend deleting 3(A) and 3(B) from subsection (a) of 20-334a (lines 539 through 545 of the bill.)**

We look forward to continuing this discussion with the members of the General Law Committee.

Thank you,

Steve Bruno
Elevator Constructors Local 91