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FLOOR DEBATE

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degree of inspections. It helps to ensure that individuals of small churches throughout our state, that when they do have someone come in and put an elevator in, that they know what the heck they're doing and that they're able to put it in competently. I've said it before, Senator Baker, the state inspector of elevators testified as a proponent because--and not in his official capacity, I have to say that--because he sees firsthand the shabby work done and then these parish members through these small churches and companies and corporations are stuck with this junk that they can't get to work because they can't pass the inspection. At least this bill through my amendment will offer a remedy that you can go after the licensure, that you know there will be continuing education, that there be a certain criteria relative to the craftsmanship of those individuals coming in to put in the elevator. And you'll have a remedy other than having to go to civil court, in that you go to the commission to try to take the license away from the mechanic that did harm to the organization or the company or the corporation in the sense that displayed incompetency in the work performed. Senator Jensen, let me tell you, this ain't a union bill. And I'll sit down with you, line by line through the opponents, because that what the opponent testimony hinted at and tried to delineate during the hearing on the board...or, during the hearing at the Business and Labor Committee. And I'll sit down line by line with you to see how each and every one of these has been addressed. You may be confused perhaps, Senator Jensen, with some earlier versions of this bill which you may be able to successfully argue that apprenticeship programs and union programs were a prerequisite to get licensure. I can assure you, under this amendment, it is not and that membership in a union is not a prerequisite. As a matter of fact, if you simply demonstrate, there's a grandfather clause in here. If you simply demonstrate three years of experience working on elevators, you're grandfathered in regardless if it's a union shop or nonunion shop. Relative to the operations from Denver, Colorado, Wyoming, there is a provision in here that those individuals that meet the requirements can get a license. So you know, if we want to...and because of the sponsorship of this bill, I have become keenly aware of instance after instance after instance of particularly churches in our state being victimized by