



KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF  
**COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

**Proponent Testimony on HB 2826**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of HB 2826. It may seem strange for community colleges to be commenting on an elevator inspection bill but the shortage of workforce able to work to fix elevators in Kansas is significant. When asked on a recent call with Kansas community college Presidents about elevator repairs and inspections it was discovered that multiple elevators have been out of service for months because of our lack of being able to find someone who can come out and inspect and fix the elevators on campus. Additionally, there seems to be regulations that are being applied now that have never been applied to our elevators before costing thousands of dollars for upgrades which are being suggested as being needed. Anything to increase the workforce and ensure existing elevators fall under the code when they are installed would be helpful to ensure that unexpected and unbudgeted upgrades are not suddenly being required.

Additionally, the current training regime required for elevator repair technicians is long, confusing, and practically non-existent in terms of specific post-secondary education pathways to a certificate or degree. The community colleges stand ready to immediately work with the State Fire Marshall to develop whatever course work is needed and to create the certificates needed to develop stackable credentials to create a much larger and more prepared workforce to perform these critically needed services. We will immediately work with the Fire Marshall to quickly ensure the training they desire is available across the state to address this critical need.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2826 and I'm happy to stand for questions.

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