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Senate Chamber

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Financial Institutions and Insurance
Joint Committee on State Building
Construction
Member
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 307 Testimony
Senator Billinger

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I am here to testify as a proponent to Senate Bill No. 307

I am in favor of this bill because it pushes back regulations that negatively affect small locally owned and operated amusement rides. These rides are often only operated 3-8 days a year and should not be regulated the same as thriller rides operated by large amusement parks.

This bill allows for small home owned rides such as hayrack rides or barrel trains to be excluded from the regulations. Reclassifies rides by height rather than age; additionally, this bill classifies water slides taller than 20 feet differently from those shorter than 20 feet, which will help at least 48 small municipal pools in the state avoid the same restrictions as large commercial water parks.

Required inspections by a certified inspector on home owned amusement rides will now be moved from every 12 months to every 24 months due to the fact that these rides are normally operated from 15 to 50 hours a year and the operators are required to record daily inspections and maintenance during days of operation. Also, the requirements to qualify as an inspector have been lowered from a NAARRSO level 2 attainment to a NAARRSO level 1, which will lessen the difficulties of the owners to find qualified inspectors near them. Inspectors will also not be held personally liable for any accidents occurred on the rides.

Insurance coverage will be set at a minimum requirement of \$750,000 with an annual aggregate of \$1 million, this is a change from the previous requirements of \$1 million per occurrence and a \$2 million annual aggregate. Registration fees will be only paid once instead of annual occurring, which will allow for the owners of these rides to afford to keep them operating.