AN ACT to create 101.05 (6) of the statutes; relating to: an exception to commercial building code requirements for the installation or operation of a stairway chair lift in a church constructed before 1919.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 101.05 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

101.05 (6) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), no standard, rule, order, code, or regulation adopted, promulgated, enforced, or administered by the department under this chapter prevents the owner of a church from installing or operating a stairway chair lift in the church if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The church was constructed before January 1, 1919.
2. Each floor level connected by the stairway in which the stairway chair lift is installed has at least one other stairway or other type of fire escape that affords safe egress from the floor for all occupants.
3. The installation and operation of the stairway chair lift complies with the requirements under subch. VII and the rules promulgated by the department under subch. VII, other than requirements related to a minimum stairway width.

(b) If the chief of the fire department in the city, village, or town in which the church is located or, if the city, village, or town does not have a fire department, the department determines that installation or operation of a stairway chair lift under par. (a) would render any part of the church not safe, the chief or department may require the owner of the church, as a condition of installing or operating the stairway chair lift, to comply with other measures determined by the chief or department to be necessary for safety.