

Date:

Thursday, February 9, 2012

To:

Rep. Anthony Brown, Chairman

House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development

Subject:

Support for HB 2554 – Kansas Roofing Registration Act

Chairman Brown and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Kansas Building Industry Association (KBIA) in support of HB 2554 with a requested amendment. KBIA is an affiliate of the National Association of Home Builders and with more than 2,000 members across the state the Association plays a crucial role in providing housing for Kansas citizens.

In recent years we have seen increasing examples of out of state and fly-by-night roofing contractors "chasing" hailstorms through Kansas. Often these contractors, appearing to be very professional, underbid local legitimate roofing contractors and then either perform subpar work or fail to deliver on the work entirely. The end result of these actions are that insured homeowners do not receive the appropriate repairs, the insurance funds have been depleted, homeowners are left holding the bag and legitimate roofers get a bad name due to the actions of others.

We believe HB 2554 represents an appropriate balance in requiring registration of roofing contractors, providing certainty to homeowners in the aftermath of a storm, without being so burdensome as to unnecessarily increase the cost of business to legitimate contractors. Again, we thank you for the opportunity to present testimony and urge your support of HB 2554.

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