

RSCA

Roofing & Siding Contractors Alliance, Inc.

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Monday, April 24, 2017

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David Humphreys
TAMKO Industries
220 West 4th Street
Joplin, Missouri 64802

Dear Mr. Humphreys:

The Roofing and Siding Contractors Alliance, Inc. (RSCA) is seeking your endorsement for two bills in the Missouri Assembly, as the owner of TAMKO Industries, which produces building products for the roofing industry, and given your engagement in the Missouri state legislative process. House Bill 425 and Senate Bill 216 calls for Registration for Roofers which legislates an appropriate amount of regulation instituted in a unique and innovative manner, while protecting consumers from bad actors who would prey upon them. At its core, this is a consumer protection issue, and the necessity is to make certain that homeowners and businesses know they are contracting with roofing contractors carrying proper insurance.

There have been almost 500 complaints recorded by the Attorney General in recent years in about a two-year period. Homeowners are taken advantage of by roofing contractors through fraud, bad business practices, such as taking deposits and not completing work, not honoring warranties, and poor workmanship. This legislation will stop consumers from losing several thousand dollars in deposits for work never performed, legal costs, and in severe cases, catastrophic home damage.

The committee substitutes call for a voluntary program with a five-year Sunset and registration requires liability insurance and a notification by the insurance company to the department if a policy lapses. Therefore, the program will end and the Missouri Assembly will take a vote to keep it if deemed effective. The insurance requirements are similar in regulatory nature to the Uber-Lyft bill signed by the Governor on Monday, April 24, 2017.

In addition, the Registration for Roofers calls for the best practice of initiating an appropriate amount of oversight. There is no board. The program is paid for by roofer fees not taxpayer money. The legislation provides a way to preserve the public interest by protecting consumers while limiting the red tape and government intrusion in what can become a national model for how to implement a non-intrusive, free-market approach to regulatory policy.

Additionally, given what we understand to be your interest in reducing litigation, the RSCA respectfully believes that this program will reduce the need for litigious action by roofing consumers because it provides much-needed government oversight. This legislation is a strong step forward for a better Missouri. Your support for Roofer Registration will have a tremendous positive influence on the roofing industry as it will protect both consumers and the roofers who value their reputations that are tarnished by unscrupulous players. Please don't hesitate to be in touch if there are any questions.

Sincerely,



Gene Frederic
RSCA Immediate Past President



Jason Shupp
RSCA Past President