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Testimony for Public Hearing

Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

February 4, 2013

Paul Shields

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House Bill No 2024(Committee)- An Act enacting the Kansas roofing contractor registration act.

My name is Paul Shields and I am Vice President of an insurance company founded in Topeka, Kansas in 1895. In Kansas losses are sustained to our insureds' homes often due to damage from wind and hail. It is of the utmost importance to match our insureds with the most reliable roofing contractors. Through my insurance experience over multiple decades I believe my testimony is warranted in regard to proposed House Bill No. 2024.

House Bill No. 2024 is intended to be an act to supplement the Kansas Consumer Protection Act (50-623). A goal of the Kansas Consumer Protection Act is to protect Kansas consumers from those who commit deceptive and unconscionable practices. Too many times these deceptive practices violate Kansas consumers. These violations are commonly due to unethical roofing contractors who travel into Kansas from other states seeking their next victims.

House Bill No. 2024 is designed to properly register each roofing contractor wishing to complete work in Kansas. The bill will assure that the correct information is on file for the roofing contractor. It also requires a truthful disclosure of any convictions and can be used to complete a criminal history check. It requires that proper insurance is to be maintained, state filings are complete, tax information is current, and if a license was ever revoked in another state for any reason. House Bill No. 2024 would also provide for the creation of a database of registered roofing contractors. It would be used to verify that a roofing contractor is properly registered to engage in roofing work in Kansas. This would give tools to Kansas consumers to help protect them from roofing contractors not registered to work in Kansas.

I am submitting this testimony to you in support of passing House Bill No. 2024- An Act enacting the Kansas Roofing Contractor Registration Act. I ask that you give your support to this supplemental act to the Kansas Consumer Protection Act (50-623) to protect the consumers of Kansas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Paul Shields
Vice President
Kansas Mutual Insurance

House Commerce & Economic
Development Committee

Date: 2.12.13

Attachment #: 15