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Testimony for Public Hearing
 Committee on Commerce Labor and Economic Development
 February 7, 2013

HOUSE BILL No. 2024 (Committee) – An Act engaging the Kansas roofing contractor registration act.

My name is Tony Durano and I have been a State Farm agent in Andover, Ks since 1990. In Kansas, losses are sustained to our customers' homes often due to damage from wind and hail. I know this first hand, as I was a new agent nearly 22 years ago when the Andover Tornado ripped through my town. Countless storms have pounded Kansas towns since that deadly day in April 1991. It is of upmost importance to match our customers with the most reliable roofing contactors.

I have also seen firsthand the shady tactics out of state roofers will use to put a roof on a home. Just last week, one of my policyholders was awoken from a Sunday afternoon nap by a roofer walking door to door in his neighborhood. This roofer, who did not have a business card, convinced my policyholder to file a claim on his roof by helping him place a call to our afterhours call center. That is not the normal way to file a homeowner claim. Through this experience I believe my testimony is warranted in regard to this proposed House Bill No. 2024.

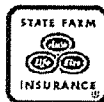
House Bill no. 2024 is intended to be an act to supplement the Kansas consumer protection act (50-623). A goal of the Kansas consumer protection act is to protect Kansas consumers from those who commit deceptive and unconscionable practices. Too many times these deceptive practices violate Kansas consumers. 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 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 will also provide for the creation of a database of registered roofing contractors. It would be used to verify that a roofing contractor is a properly registered to engage in roofing work in Kansas. This would give the 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 the supplemental act to the Kansas consumer protection act (50-623) to protect the consumers of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Tony Durano, CLU, ChFC, CASL



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House Commerce & Economic
 Development Committee
 Date: 2.12.13
 Attachment #: 10