

February 12, 2013

To: Representative Marvin Kleeb, Chairman

House Commerce, Labor & Economic Development Committee

From: Lee Wright, Government & Industry Affairs Manager

Re: Written Testimony on House Bill 2024 - Roofing Registration Act

**Position:** Support

Chairman Kleeb and members of the Committee, my name is Lee Wright and I represent Farmers Insurance. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2024.

Farmers Insurance has been doing business in Kansas since 1930. We are a major insurer of homeowners in the state. We are also the largest insurance employer with over 3,000 Farmers employees working in Kansas.

In 2012, we paid a total of 4800 wind and hail claims to homeowners. Approximately 90% of those claims included roof repair or replacement.

We believe HB 2024 will provide increased consumer protection to the residents of our state. It should help prevent Kansans from being taken advantage of by certain "fly-by-night" residential contractors in times when consumers may be most vulnerable - after suffering property damage from a severe wind or hail storm.

While it is understood most residential contractors are reputable and honest business persons, there is a need to protect consumers from those firms that do not have ties to the community and usually move on after taking advantage of unsuspecting consumers.

We urge your support of HB 2024.

Thank you.