June 3, 2019

Chairwoman Manning, Vice Chairman Dean, and Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan and Members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on HB 199 (Patton) Commercial Roofing Contractors.

The Northern Ohio Fire Fighters (NOFF) is made up of over 20 local fire departments representing active and retired firefighters in five different counties including (Cuyahoga, Lake, Summit, Wayne, and Portage Counties.)

Our organization has a history of service and knows the importance of working to move this

State forward as members have served on the State Fire Commission, statewide task forces, and

the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Board. We have been involved in regionalization projects, fire

life safety programs with fire dampers, and pension reform.   Giving and being active in the community is also very important to NOFF, the organization and its members have raised considerable funding for various charities over the years.

**Our job is safety.**

**Thus, NOFF supports adding a commercial roofing license section to the existing Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board (OCILB) located within the Ohio Department of Commerce in the Division of Industrial Compliance and Labor.**

Commercial contractors being able to show proof of insurance, have work experience of three years to be grandfathered in, or to gain a new licensee- sit for an industry specific test would help provide a level of expertise to commercial roofing.  The legislation can enhance safety and aid to the protection for fire fighters that have to enter compromised buildings.

The ability to have an efficient, time tested, check on commercial building structures makes sense and can protect lives.

Thank you for consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Scott Maynor

President Northern Ohio Firefighters Association