

April 17, 2023

Chair Mark Johnson and Members of the Committee  
Commerce and Labor Committee  
Ohio House of Representatives

RE: House Bill 129 – Roofing Contractors – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Johnson and Members of the Committee:

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) is a national, century-old, not-for-profit organization supported by approximately 1,200 property and casualty insurance companies, including many who write business in Ohio. Working hand-in-hand with our member companies and Ohio law enforcement, we help to detect, prevent, and deter insurance crimes. While NICB provides value to our member companies, we also serve a significant public benefit by helping to stem the estimated billions of dollars in economic harm that insurance crime causes to individual policyholders across the country every year.

Contractor fraud, particularly involving roofing and roofing-related services, is a widespread problem, and Ohio is not an exception. Often, in the aftermath of major storms or a catastrophe, unscrupulous, aggressive contractors use the opportunity to prey upon already vulnerable consumers. In fact, according to reports received by NICB from our member companies, Ohio ranked in the top 5 states nationally for roofing-related questionable claims over a recent multi-year period.

House Bill 129 seeks to strengthen oversight over roofing contractors by establishing a Roofing Section within the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board (OCILB) and requiring roofing contractors maintain a professional license. These requirements match professional licensing requirements already established for other construction trades including HVAC, electrical, and plumbing.

**Accordingly, we respectfully request your support for HB 129.**

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at edecampos@nicb.org or (847) 989-7104.

Sincerely,



Eric M. De Campos  
Director  
Strategy, Policy and Government Affairs  
National Insurance Crime Bureau