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**House Commerce and Labor Committee  
House Bill 129  
Proponent Testimony**

Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Manchester, Ranking Member McNally, and members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee. Please accept this written testimony in support of House Bill 129, which strengthens Ohio law by requiring commercial roofing contractors to obtain a contractor license issued by the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board (OCILB).

Requiring a roofing contractor to satisfy the same requirements that other specialty contractors must satisfy – including passing an examination – just makes sense and will ensure that the critical work performed by commercial roofing professionals meets the high standards that we would all expect.

There is a significant risk to first responders when contractors do not have the proper safety plans and equipment in place. Allowing unlicensed, and often fly-by-night, contractors to perform the highly technical work of a commercial roofing professional can only lead to an increased risk of a serious incident.

The Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association is pleased to support House Bill 129, and we appreciate Representative Patton for sponsoring this important legislation.