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June 7, 2012

The Honorable John Kline
Chairman, House Committee on Education and the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA) supports the Workforce Investment Improvement Act of 2012 (H.R. 4297), legislation designed to consolidate and reform federal worker training programs. NRCA urges members of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce to approve this legislation in order to provide a more dynamic, effective, and accountable workforce development system.

Established in 1886, NRCA is one of the nation's oldest trade associations and the voice of professional roofing contractors nationwide. NRCA has approximately 4,000 members in all 50 states, and our contractors typically are small, privately held companies, with the average member employing 45 people in peak season.

H.R. 4297 will consolidate 27 existing federal job training programs into one flexible Workforce Investment Fund. It also will eliminate 19 federal mandates dictating who can serve on local workforce investment boards and provide for increased employer participation on these boards. In addition, it will give state and local governments more flexibility in developing workforce development programs and will require the Department of Labor to conduct an independent evaluation of its training programs every five years.

NRCA supports the Workforce Investment Reform Act because it will strengthen the role of employers and provide more flexibility in our workforce develop system. NRCA looks forward to working with you and other lawmakers to improve our workforce training programs. If you have questions, please contact NRCA's Duane Musser at 202-546-7584 or dmusser@nrca.net.

Sincerely,

Bruce McCrory
Kiker Corp., Mobile, AL
President, NRCA