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March 4, 2013

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 Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills Act (SKILLS Act), legislation (H.R. 803) designed to consolidate and reform federal worker training programs. NRCA urges members of the House 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.

The SKILLS Act creates a flexible Workforce Investment Fund to serve as a single source of support for workers, employers and job seekers. It also would eliminate and streamline 35 ineffective and duplicative federal job training programs, including 27 identified in a 2011 report by the Government Accountability Office. In addition, it will give state and local governments more flexibility to consolidate employment and training programs and services at the state level in order to improve administrative efficiency, eliminate waste and improve support for workers.

NRCA supports H.R. 803 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 members to improve 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