



April 14-15

Roofing Industry Supports Solutions to Workforce Shortages

The roofing industry is an essential \$100 billion sector with nearly 1 million employees that is vital to constructing affordable housing and maintaining schools, hospitals and other critical infrastructure nationwide. Demographic trends and challenges in career and technical education have resulted in too few skilled tradespeople needed to install, manufacture and distribute life-saving shelter to all Americans. The roofing industry encourages Congress to support the following solutions to ongoing workforce shortages in today's economy.

Ask: Co-sponsor the Dignity Act (H.R. 4393)

- Bipartisan legislation by Reps. Salazar (R-Fla.) and Escobar (D-Texas) to strengthen border security and implement numerous reforms to fix our broken immigration system.
- Establishes the Dignity Program to provide Dreamers, individuals with Temporary Protected Status and qualified long-term undocumented individuals the opportunity to earn lawful permanent status so they can continue contributing to our industry and their communities.
- Provides expanded workforce training and apprenticeship opportunities for U.S. workers.

Ask: Co-sponsor the Essential Workers for Economic Advancement Act (H.R. 5494)

- Bipartisan legislation by Reps. Smucker (R-Pa.) and Cuellar (D-Texas) is a market-driven solution to address workforce shortages while ensuring American workers are prioritized.
- It reforms the U.S. visa system to match willing employers with temporary workers to enable employers to fill positions that have remained vacant for months and grow our economy.
- The reformed system will allocate more visas in times of economic strength and fewer during downturns, enabling employers to address workforce needs while protecting workers.
- Employers using the improved visa system are required to use E-Verify to certify the work status of all new hires, helping to combat illegal immigration.

Ask: Support a robust increase in funding for Perkins Career and Technical Education State Grants

- Funding for improved and expanded CTE is critical to ensuring more students obtain the technical education needed to close the skills gap in the workforce.
- Investment in Perkins state grants is a mere fraction of funding provided to universities and is vital to helping connect students to fulfilling, family-sustaining careers in our communities.
- Growth in trade school enrollment is positive, increasing by 16% in 2024, and it is imperative funding keep up with this growth, especially in a time of rapid technological change.

**Questions? Please contact
NRCA's Washington, D.C., office at (202) 546-7584 or (800) 338-5765.**