



NRCA Supports Legislation to Address Workforce Shortages

Sept. 23, 2025, Washington, D.C. — The National Roofing Contractors Association supports the Essential Workers for Economic Advancement Act (H.R. 5494), bipartisan legislation to address workforce shortages, combat illegal immigration and help secure the border. NRCA commends Rep. Lloyd Smucker (R-PA) and cosponsors for their leadership in providing effective solutions to our nation's economic and security needs.

A chronic shortage of qualified workers is the most significant limitation on the ability of roofing companies to grow their businesses, with lost economic growth estimated at \$9.5 to \$19 billion annually. The problem is expected to become more acute due to an aging workforce and other trends, despite the family-sustaining jobs offered by NRCA members (the Bureau of Labor Statistics average hourly wage for roof system installers was \$32.62 in June 2025).

This legislation will enable roofing industry employers to obtain the workforce needed to meet consumer demand and expand their businesses. It establishes a pilot program with a market-driven visa that adjusts with economic conditions and requires employers to conduct extensive recruiting efforts to fill vacant positions before hiring temporary workers to meet critical needs. Workers receive visas through a streamlined online process and may enter the U.S. only when approved.

The legislation also requires that participating employers use E-Verify to ensure that only legal workers are hired. By expanding E-Verify and providing a legal method for temporary workers to alleviate workforce shortages when needed, the bill will build on the great progress made by the administration in securing our borders.

NRCA strongly supports this legislation that contains balanced reforms critical to sustaining a strong economy while strengthening our security. NRCA commends Reps. Smucker, Amodei (R-NV), Ciscomani (R-AZ), Cuellar (D-TX), Davis (D-NC), Harris (R-MD), Kelly (R-PA), McCormick (R-GA), Salazar (R-FL), and Suozzi (D-NY) for their leadership and commitment to securing the roofing industry's workforce.

“This legislation will provide a vital resource to meeting the workforce challenges we face today and in the future,” said McKay Daniels, NRCA's CEO. “We urge Congress to act now to help ensure America's roofing contractors can continue providing affordable, life-sustaining shelter to all Americans and help build our nation's economic prosperity.”