



**Department of Business Regulation
Office of the Director**

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March 13, 2025

The Honorable Joseph Solomon Jr.
Chair, House Committee on Corporations
Rhode Island State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: H 5558 -- RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION
AND LICENSING BOARD

Dear Chair Solomon:

I write on behalf of the Department of Business Regulation in support of H 5558. This bill would require applications for registration as a contractor in the state of Rhode Island to provide a legible copy of a valid government-issued identification.

As a general matter, the Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board seeks to ensure that Rhode Island consumers and homeowners are afforded all possible protection from malfeasant contractors, or individuals representing themselves as contractors. Introducing this new requirement for registration with the CRLB would provide an additional layer of certainty for the Board and consumers at large that registered contractors are who they say they are, and that individuals who have been subject to enforcement actions or who have violated the laws and regulations related to contractors in the past are able to be identified by regulators and potential consumers alike. This would represent an improvement in consumer protection without introducing new, burdensome requirements upon the vast majority of contractors who are in compliance with our State's laws and regulations.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kelleher Dwyer, Esq.
Director, Department of Business Regulation

cc : Honorable Members of the House Committee on Corporations
The Honorable Maryann Shallcross Smith
Nicole McCarty, Executive Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Tom Furey, Chair, Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board
Carol O'Donnell, Vice Chair, Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board
Matthew Santacroce, Deputy Director, Department of Business Regulation