

Representative Arthur J. Corvese Deputy Majority Leader Chair, House Labor Committee Rhode Island House of Representatives State House Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chair Corvese,

On behalf of the National Architectural Glass and Metal Association (NAGMA), an organization that supports the needs of architectural glass and metal companies, I am writing to express our support of Rhode Island 2024 – H 7105 ("H 7105"), an act related to the required use of North American Contractor Certification ("NACC") certified companies and Architectural Glass and Metal Technician ("AGMT") certified workers on certain public works renovation projects.

Last year, NAGMA was proud to support Rhode Island 2023 - H 5074, which created the requirement that public works renovation projects over an established amount utilize trained and certified contractors and workers for glazing and glasswork. As one of the first states in the country to call for such a requirement, Rhode Island is helping to set a standard that will ensure safety, quality, and efficiency on every project from start to finish. H 7105 is a continuation of the work begun last year and aims to specify how the enacted requirement will be enforced.

H 7105 establishes a process under the Department of Labor & Training to ensure the requirements now enacted in Rhode Island General Laws Section 37-2-82 are met and, where violations are alleged, for a hearing and adjudication process. We believe this is a sensible addition that will allow for greater transparency and consistency in enforcement. The language proposes a system similar to that used in relation to licensing violations and, as such, is established and tested.

We believe that the use of NACC certified contractors and AGMT certified workers on public projects will help mitigate failures, increase safety, and ensure products are installed to meet their energy efficiency potential. However, we recognize that clear enforcement guidelines are needed in order for these requirements to realize their full potential. H 7105 seeks to remedy the omission of such guidelines from the previous legislation.

For the reasons stated above, the National Architectural Glass and Metal Association supports the passage of Rhode Island 2023 - H 7105.

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Wyandt, Esq.

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Executive Director

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