

ANTHONY M. DeLUCA, MEMBER

115 IRVIS OFFICE BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202032
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2032
PHONE: (717) 783-1011
FAX: (717) 772-9937

7205 SALTSBURG ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15235
PHONE: (412) 793-2448
FAX: (412) 793-7495



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

INSURANCE, CHAIRMAN
GAME & FISHERIES

DEMOCRATIC POLICY
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE


CAUCUSES

ARTHRITIS & OSTEOPOROSIS CAUCUS
AUTISM CAUCUS
CHILDREN'S CAUCUS
COAL CAUCUS
FIREFIGHTERS' & EMERGENCY
SERVICES, CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
STEEL CAUCUS

MEMO

January 7, 2010

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Tony DeLuca 

SUBJECT: Proposed legislation – Contractor's Proof of Financial Security (HB 2042 of 2009)

I will be re-introducing legislation in the near future to protect consumers from unscrupulous home contractors, and the legislation will be an excellent complement to the Act 132 of 2008, i.e. Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act, by requiring the most up to date information on the financial condition of a contractor.

Currently, when an application for a building permit is filed and all legal requirements have been met, the administrator has no choice but to issue the permit. There is no requirement that the contractor provide proof of financial responsibility and so contractors with outstanding liens or judgments are currently able to acquire the permit even if they are experiencing financial difficulties.

My legislation will require contractors seeking building permits to provide proof of financial security. This proof could be in the form of an affidavit from the county administrator stating that there are no outstanding liens or judgments against the contractor.

Unfortunately, one of my constituents encountered this situation and since they were not aware of any outstanding judgments, the contractor absconded with money without having done any of the promised work. Only after this occurred did the constituent learn of the outstanding judgments.

While we may not be able to provide help to my constituent, the legislation should be of value to other Pennsylvanians in preventing contractors from being defrauded by unscrupulous contractors.

If you wish to add your support as a co-sponsor of this bill, please contact my office via email at chaldi@pahouse.net. Thank you.