



**HOME BUILDERS & REMODELERS ASSOCIATION  
OF CONNECTICUT, INC.**

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*Your Home  
Is Our  
Business*

February 7, 2017

To: Senators Carlo Leone and Kevin Witkos, Representative David Baram,  
Co-Chairs, and Representative Richard Smith, Ranking Member  
Members of the General Law Committee

From: Bill Ethier, CAE, Chief Executive Officer

Re: **Support HB 5521, AA Extending the Grace Period for Certain  
License Applications**

The HBRA of Connecticut is a professional trade association with about eight hundred (800) member firms statewide employing tens of thousands of CT's citizens. Our members, all small businesses, are residential and commercial builders, land developers, remodelers, general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and those businesses and professionals that provide services to our diverse industry and to consumers. We build between 70% to 80% of all new homes and apartments in the state each year and engage in countless home remodeling projects.

**The HBRA of CT supports a change to how DCP processes new registrations for new home construction contractors (NHCC), and therefore we support the idea behind HB 5521.**

The bill is intended to address an issue noted in the testimony from Paul Pecoraro and House Minority Leader Klarides. The bill and their testimony raises a basic fairness issue that we hope DCP would correct. It seems unfair that a new NHCC registrant who registers three months plus a day prior to DCP's biennial static date must either renew its registration three months plus later or its original full fee is good for only three plus months.

The best approach to solve the issue for new registrants is to adopt a true biennial registration, i.e., each registered NHCC renews on the 2 year anniversary of the month in which they registered. Alternatively, if the static September odd year renewal for all NHCC registrants must remain in place due to some agency administrative convenience or other reason, a new registrant should have to pay only a proportional payment from the month in which they register up to the static September odd year renewal. That is, if someone newly registers four months prior to the DCP renewal date, they pay for only 4 months (4/24) for their initial registration, or if they register 15 months prior to DCP's renewal date, they pay for only 15 months (15/24) for their initial registration, and so on. The proportional amount should also apply to the NHCC guaranty fund payment that is made along with one's registration.

One of the changes noted above would better serve the small businesses DCP registers. It would be a small yet positive change to the business environment in CT. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

**Vision: "Building CT's Economy, Communities and Better Lives One Home at a Time"**  
**Mission: "Using Effective Advocacy and New Knowledge to Solve Our Member's Problems."**