



Carpentry & Handyman Concepts LLC
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HB 5149- SUPPORT - An Act Concerning Testing and Licensing of Home Improvement Contractors

Dear: Senator Paul Doyle, Representative David Baram and Members of the General Law Committee

I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today in support of HB 5149.

My name is David Grecco my company is Carpentry and Handyman Concepts located in Norwalk. I have been a registered Home Improvement Contractor for the past 18 years.

I remember my early years as a contractor quite well. After working with my dad I decided to start my own company. Through trial and error (and there were many) I have been able to evolve my business into a strong contracting business in lower Fairfield County. Had the specific state classes been available to me when I was first starting off in business it would have certainly helped me succeed at a much faster pace. I do take every advantage for addition training as well as holding membership in professional business development such as NARI, BBB, Chamber of Commerce, Remodeling Contractors assoc. In addition I am lead certified by the federal government.

I can't tell you how many times I am called in to correct someone's sub standard work. Once a customer has been burned by a dishonest or unqualified contractor their level of trust has been sorely compromised. Funding to correct bad work has been compromised and many times the consumers don't have enough to have the job re-done correctly. I am left with doing my best to get them back into a safe and completed home.

I educate my customers, I give advice, help them plan their project and provide them with a legal contract which protects both of us. I do this because this is part of MY JOB as a Home Improvement Contractor. I do not expect my customers to be able to know everything- they depend on me and I take that trust very seriously. There is no simple way that I could expect my customer to know what is contained in a legal contract required by the State of Ct. That is MY JOB. I don't expect that my

customer will know if their planned project will meet building code compliance- that is MY JOB. I do not expect my customers to understand how long a project will take, that is something that we fully discuss because that is MY JOB. Most all of the expectations between a contractor and a homeowner are spelled out in our contracts. If I had no experience in this, and did not understand what is required of me from the DCP then it would be an issue. My customers look to me as a registered contractor for answers, that's why they hire me. It is time that we require those in the contracting business to become educated in all that is expected from them statutorily and ethically, it is not the consumer who should have to take the test. It is time for my industry to rise above this lame way of registering and raise our industry to a higher standard.

Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any of your questions.