

TESTIMONY OF SPFA TO THE CT GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE

1 CHAIRMAN BARAM, CHAIRMAN DOYLE

2 STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

3 SUBMITTED TO THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE

4 STATE OF CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5 FEBRUARY 21, 2013

6 CHAIRMAN BARAM, CHAIRMAN DOYLE, MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL LAW

7 COMMITTEE, FOR THE RECORD MY NAME IS DR. RICHARD DUNCAN FROM THE

8 SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM ALLIANCE, OR SPFA. I AM SUBMITTING TESTIMONY

9 ON HOUSE BILL 5908, AN ACT REQUIRING SAFETY AND CERTIFICATION

10 STANDARDS FOR THE SPRAY FOAM INSULATION INDUSTRY.

11 SPFA IS THE NATIONAL 501(C)6 TRADE ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING THE VALUE

12 CHAIN OF THE SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM INSULATION AND ROOFING

13 INDUSTRY. OUR MEMBERSHIP IS COMPRISED OF MANUFACTURERS,

14 DISTRIBUTORS AND INSTALLERS OF SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM, HENCEFORTH

15 REFERRED TO AS SPRAYFOAM, FROM ACROSS THE UNITED STATES.

16 USE OF SPRAYFOAM INSULATION AND ROOFING HAS GROWN CONSIDERABLY

17 OVER THE PAST DECADE, CONSISTENTLY AT DOUBLE DIGIT RATES. THIS IS DUE TO

18 ITS PERFORMANCE AS BOTH A FANTASTIC INSULATOR WITH HIGH R-VALUE, AS

19 WELL AS AN AIR-BARRIER PREVENTING AIR-LEAKAGE, A MAJOR CULPRIT OF
20 BUILDING INEFFICIENCY.

21 IT ALSO PROVIDES EMPLOYMENT FOR TENS OF THOUSANDS OF EMPLOYEES OF
22 MEMBER COMPANIES, WITH THE HIGH PERFORMANCE CONTRACTOR AND
23 INSTALLERS REPRESENTING SMALL BUSINESSES PERFORMING SERVICES THAT
24 CANNOT BE EXPORTED. THE CONNECTICUT MARKET ALONE SUPPORTS SEVERAL
25 HUNDRED OF THESE SMALL BUSINESS EMPLOYEES, AND EXTENDS TO SEVERAL
26 THOUSANDS OF SUPPORT EMPLOYEES AROUND THE COUNTRY. SPRAYFOAM IS A
27 HIGH PERFORMANCE PRODUCT WITH SUBSTANTIAL TESTING FROM MAJOR
28 CODES, FIRE AND "GREEN" ORGANIZATIONS, AS WELL AS RECOGNITION AND USE
29 AMONG VARIOUS STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES INCLUDING THE U.S
30 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, THE
31 OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, THE GENERAL SERVICES
32 ADMINISTRATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO NAME A FEW.

33 RECOGNIZING THIS GROWTH AND BROAD STAKEHOLDERSHIP, SPFA HAS
34 ENGAGED IN SEVERAL INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT THE INDUSTRY, ITS CUSTOMERS,
35 AND THOSE ENTITIES THAT HAVE EMBRACED ITS PERFORMANCE AND
36 INNOVATION.

37 WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE U.S. EPA, OSHA AND NIOSH ON TOPICS
38 RELATED TO SPRAYFOAM HEALTH, SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE. MOST RECENTLY
39 SPFA, WITH OUR PARTNERS, ENGAGED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TRUE
40 SPRAYFOAM PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

41 IT WAS MADE COMPREHENSIVE THROUGH THOUSANDS OF HOURS OF MEMBER
42 AND STAFF COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPING MATERIAL RELATED TO THE
43 OCCUPATION. SPFA FOLLOWED ANSI/ISO 17024, STANDARDS FOR THE
44 CERTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL. WE ENGAGED IN A THOROUGH
45 JOB TASK ANALYSIS, AND DEVELOPED SUBSEQUENT SUPPORTING KNOWLEDGE,
46 SKILLS AND ABILITIES OR "KSA"S, AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES RELATED TO EACH
47 KSA.

48 THE RESULT IS AN OUTSTANDING PROGRAM FOCUSED UPON SPRAYFOAM
49 INSTALLATION PROFESSIONALS, UNBIASED BY BRAND, AND CONSENSUS-
50 DEVELOPED. IT IS OWNED AND MANAGED BY SPFA AND IS ANSI/ISO 17024-
51 ACCREDITED.

52 WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE JUST ROLLED THIS PROGRAM OUT AT
53 OUR SPFA NATIONAL CONVENTION IN FEBRUARY 2013 FOLLOWING SEVERAL

54 TEST-PILOT SESSIONS. SO FAR ALMOST EIGHT HUNDRED TESTS HAVE BEEN
55 ADMINISTERED NATIONALLY BUT THAT STILL REPRESENTS A SMALL PORTION OF
56 SPRAYFOAM INSTALLATION PROFESSIONALS. THE TESTING WILL BE AVAILABLE
57 AT MANY NATIONAL TEST CENTERS, INCLUDING AT MANY OF OUR MEMBER
58 MANUFACTURING FACILITIES. IT WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE THROUGH NATIONAL
59 DISTRIBUTORS AND OTHER LOCATIONS, SEVERAL OF WHICH WILL BE RIGHT HERE
60 IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

61 THIS HOWEVER TAKES SOME TIME. WHILE THE INDIVIDUAL TESTING AND
62 FRAMEWORK ARE COMPLETE, THE PROGRAM HAS SEVERAL ASPECTS INCLUDING
63 FINAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, INTEGRATION WITH VARIOUS TRAINING
64 PROGRAMS, AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTOR, DISTRIBUTOR AND
65 MANUFACTURING FIRMS TO BECOME ACCREDITED THAT NEED TO BE
66 COMPLETED. SPFA, ITS MEMBERS AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS ARE HARD AT WORK
67 TO COMPLETE THESE OTHER CRITICAL ELEMENTS AND ANTICIPATE THE
68 REMAINDER OF 2013 BEING NEEDED TO FINISH THE WORK.

69 SPFA ENGAGED IN THIS EFFORT RECOGNIZING THAT ALL SPRAYFOAM STAKE-
70 HOLDERS, INCLUDING HOMEOWNERS, GENERAL CONTRACTORS, ARCHITECTS,
71 HOME BUILDERS, STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ARE LOOKING

72 FOR A BASELINE ON HEALTH AND SAFETY, ALONG WITH PERFORMANCE AND
73 QUALITY, IN THEIR DETERMINATION OF SPRAYFOAM CONTRACTOR SELECTION.
74 THIS PROGRAM WILL DELIVER A COMPETENT AND EFFECTIVE BASIS FOR THAT
75 SELECTION, ALONGSIDE OTHER FACTORS CUSTOMERS SHOULD TAKE INTO
76 CONSIDERATION THAT REPRESENT APPROPRIATE DUE-DILIGENCE IN SELECTING A
77 CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM SERVICES.

78 THIS PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED AND IS SUPPORTED BY THE SPRAYFOAM VALUE
79 CHAIN, AND IS ANTICIPATED TO BE AN AVENUE THROUGH WHICH CONTRACTORS
80 WILL BE ABLE TO DIFFERENTIATE THEMSELVES, THEIR COMPANIES AND THEIR
81 SERVICES.

82 IN THE VERY SHORT TIME ALLOTTED TO US, I WANTED TO INTRODUCE AND
83 ORIENT YOU TO SPRAYFOAM, THE SPFA, AND OUR NEW CERTIFICATION
84 PROGRAM. WE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH YOU MORE CLOSELY
85 TO FULLY HIGHLIGHT THE ASPECTS OF THIS PROGRAM, MAKE IT A RESOURCE TO
86 THE GREAT STATE OF CONNECTICUT, AND WE APPLAUDE YOU IN YOUR EFFORTS
87 TO REPRESENT YOUR VARIOUS CONSTITUENTS.

88 WHILE WE ENDEAVOR TO FINISH OUR WORK ON THE PROGRAM, WE ALSO LOOK
89 FORWARD TO WORKING TOWARD COMPLETE DEPLOYMENT ON A REASONABLE
90 TIMELINE AND MANAGED PROCESS WITH YOU, YOUR AGENCIES, THE
91 BUSINESSES, HOMEOWNERS, AND BUILDING OWNERS OF CONNECTICUT.
92 THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION.