

February 18, 2016

I am writing in response to a notice I received about a hearing at the Legislative Office February 19, 2016 regarding H.B.5180-An Act Concerning the Documentation of Concrete Foundation Applications. Since I am unable to attend the meeting in person I wanted to provide my testimony to this issue.

My name is Sandra Grabierz, I live at 151 Pinney Rd., Somers Ct. I recently asked my contractor to give me an estimate to do some outside repairs to home (so I could have the house repainted) and fix some cracks in my foundation. When he went into the cellar he told me the problem with the foundation was very serious and I should immediately contact my Insurance Company. On that same day (January 26, 2016) I contacted Middlesex Oak to report the situation. I was assigned a claim number (06B94275) and a Claims Adjuster. He came out on February 2, 2016 and looked at the foundation, took pictures and then reviewed with me my homeowners insurance policy coverage. Given the extent of the damage he felt this was part of the crumbling foundation problem and suggested I contact my attorney immediately.

I contact Attorney Joseph Fallon on February 5, 2016. He did tell me he didn't handle this type of litigation but he had several other clients reporting the same problem. He said he would do a little more research and get back to me with an Attorney recommendation who handles this type of case. He also suggested I write a letter to the Consumer Protection Agency to report my situation. Letter was mailed on February 11, 2016

I am single and live alone. I am very cautious when entering into major projects so I don't over extend myself financially. In 2014 I bought the land (2 ½ acres) and paid cash. In 2015 I hired a contractor to build my home which was completed on Dec 31' 2015. Since I was still being cautious about expenses I didn't build the garage until 2016 (which again I paid in cash). Several other projects were held off (such as installing central air, adding a patio and front walk, and doing landscaping) for a couple of years, again so I could feel confident that I wasn't going to over extend myself financially.

That being said, I have taken a lot of pride in my home and over the years done a lot to maintain it and enhance the property to make it my dream home. The foundation problem has been devastating to say the least. Now that I am a senior, retired and living on a fixed income I don't know how I can afford to replace the foundation at an estimated cost of \$150,000 to \$200,000. I am praying this hearing will bring to light the immense burden this problem is placing on so many homeowners. Hopefully the government (and its agencies) can provide some monetary assistance to aid those of us who want to remain in our homes.

Respectfully,

Sandra Grabierz

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