

**Honorable Chairman Sean Tarwater and All Of the Commerce Committee Members:**

My name is **Dan Bowers**, I'm a 74 year old twice wounded Vietnam Veteran with all the advantages that Agent Orange brings. I have done residential, commercial, environmental inspections and expert witness for right at 45 years, with the past 34 years being in the Kansas City area (Kansas & Missouri). I was a Kansas resident for the last 30 years until I got remarried 5 years ago and moved to Missouri.

At various times over the past 28 years I have served as President of state inspector associations in both Kansas and Missouri, and have served as a Board of Director on all National Inspection Associations. With several other inspectors, 4-5 times a year we have held 2 week long training classes for people entering the profession, and I have been a National Speaker for all Home Inspection Associations.

I am not opposed to a legitimate licensing program of certain professions, and I have seen 1st hand the positive benefits afforded the public through a proper licensing program. Growing up in a construction family we worked on 71 Hwy, Ward Pkwy Shopping Center, Ward Pkwy thru the Plaza, etc ..... Then working for TGI Fridays Corporate building Restaurants from Boston to Ft Lauderdale and with over 40 yrs in inspections / **I have carried licenses as a home builder, contractor, HVAC contractor, and in inspections for asbestos / lead paint / radon / septic / home inspector, and many others.** And I am a certified code inspector. One of my licenses was as a real estate broker and 1 of my Degrees is in Real Estate. Between having been licensed as a builder, inspector, real estate broker, etc I am fully aware of why the Kansas Association of Realtors would want to pass Bill HB-2526.

During the 1<sup>st</sup> licensing Bill in Kansas in 2008, I was on the Education Committee, establishing educational requirements for inspectors and providers. Currently I am on the committee the Kansas Realtors (KAR) assembled for the past 2-3 years to put together a COMPROMISE version of a regulation Bill the Realtors were pushing. **HB-2526 as written does NOT provide adequate consumer protection.**

4 or 5 times a year I hold a 2 week training class for people wanting to become home inspectors. Besides right here in Kansas OR Missouri, I've had trainees come from Maine, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, Tennessee, Arkansas, Michigan, California, New Mexico, etc.

**Passing the proposed Bill (HB-2526) would personally mean more \$\$\$\$\$ for me due to the MANDATORY training for NEW licensees AND CE classes.**

Having said this although parts of the Bill are doable ..... **As HB-2526 is written I can NOT with a good conscience support licensing,** There are many loop holes and problems that would need to be changed starting with allowing engineers or architects to perform a FULL home inspection BUT not having to follow the same rules everyone else would have to follow; such as not being required to MANDATORILY carry insurance, OR being allowed to LIMIT their liability which the Bill would prohibit other inspectors from doing ..... For the record I'm NOT picking on an engineer or architect as I took mechanical engineering classes at Texas A&M and structural engineering design classes at the University of Wisconsin school of engineering. There are OVER 45 engineering degrees I'm aware of (most of which are very specialized in their field BUT that field is not home inspection).

Bottom Line if we don't ALL play by the same rules, we DON't have Consumer Protection.

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