



KEITH R. McCALL  
THE SPEAKER

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

March 5, 2009

Mr. Ralph Manento  
Royal Security Services, Inc.  
RR6 Box 6404  
Saylorsburg, PA 18353

Dear Mr. Manento:

Thank you for your recent letter about how the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act will affect home security systems businesses. I appreciate your input and comments on the new law.

As you may know, the House of Representatives passed the Senate version of the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act, Senate Bill 100. My bill, House Bill 507, as well as the Senate version, did include the installation of security systems. In the working group discussions with legal staff, consumer advocacy groups, AARP, the National Association of Remodeling Industry (NARI), members of the Pennsylvania Builder's Association, the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office and the Senate, all were in agreement that the installation of a security system should be covered by the act. The act intends to provide a standard to cover installations in a home, especially since installations involve drilling and electrical work. However please note that the law will not cover home security monitoring, which normally occurs after installation.

While I realize that this new law may at first glance be a hindrance, I believe it will benefit the home improvement industry by providing consumers with access to reliable home installers. I have also heard the argument that this is punishing good contractors and businesses. However, overall the biannual fee of \$50 per year, (less than 20 cents per day) is a good investment for contractors because in essence the law will help them ten-fold as it weeds out fraudulent contractors and provides more work for legitimate businesses.

As you know, the act does not take effect until July 1, 2009. At this time, I am reluctant to amend the act since it has yet to be implemented. I will certainly remember your points when Act 132 becomes effective and as I gather input from the industry about the strengths and weaknesses of the law.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact my office. I encourage your dialog and welcome any suggestions you may have on how Pennsylvania can improve the law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith R. McCall".

KEITH R. McCALL  
The Speaker  
122<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District

KRMc:dbb