

My name is Scott Hammond. I am the Director of Research at the National Energy Management Committee (NEMIC). I reside in the State of Ohio and NEMIC's headquarters are in Falls Church, Virginia.

I am calling in support of HB 218. This bill has created an awareness through education of the required periodic inspections of fire dampers, smoke dampers and the testing of smoke control systems. These inspections and tests are recognized by the International Fire Code which has been adopted in 42 of 50 states (including Alaska). The IFC recognizes standards 80, 92, and 105, which have been developed by technical committees established by the National Fire Protection Association, that address the frequency of inspection and testing of fire dampers, smoke dampers, and smoke control systems.

In addition, HB 218 addresses the need to have a skilled, trained, and certified workforce in the performance of these hvac life safety component inspections and testing. By requiring a certification that is recognized by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), a mechanical engineer or fire protection engineer the bill ensures that the person performing these inspections and testing will have the proper knowledge, skills, and competency to properly perform these potentially life and/or property saving tasks.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of HB 218.