



January 2, 2024

U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Urging Republican Co-Sponsors for H.R. 2891, The SAFE Banking Act of 2023 / Sponsored by Rep. David Joyce (R-OH)

Dear Representative:

The Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA) is supported by more than 3,500 construction firms specializing in industrial, commercial, residential, architectural and specialty sheet metal and air conditioning construction in public and private markets throughout the United States. On behalf of SMACNA, I want to join with many leading business and banking industry organizations advocating for your support of the Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act, H.R. 2891, introduced by Rep. David Joyce (R-OH) currently featuring 23 House Republican cosponsors. Now that the Senate Banking Committee has passed their bipartisan SAFER Banking bill, S. 2680, to the Senate floor for consideration, it is time for H.R. 2891 to move as well.

Countless national and state business organizations, including SMACNA contracting corporations, are reaching out to you and all House GOP members to ask for your co-sponsorship of **H.R. 2891**. The SAFE Banking Act would allow banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions to offer banking services to construction contractors and other legally operating businesses providing contracting and other services to the industry. This would be done without fear of punishment by federal banking regulators. As you are aware, **the U.S. House of Representatives passed the SAFE Banking Act with overwhelming bipartisan majority support <u>seven times</u> in recent Congressional sessions. <u>Last Congress the House passed the SAFE Banking bill by a 321-101 margin</u>. It was also added as an amendment to the fiscal year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).**

Cannabis-related enterprises are a growing, legal business market segment in nearly 40 states and the District of Columbia. Even more states have legalized cannabis / marijuana for medical use, and sixteen allow adult recreational use. **This banking reform would also reduce small business anxiety, contracting complications and safety risks.** The positive economic and contractor security benefits to the construction industry as well as local and state economies are substantial.

We urge you to cosponsor Rep. Joyce's SAFE Banking reform legislation – H.R. 2891.

Sincerely,

Stanley E. Kolbe, Jr.

Executive Director, Government and Political Affairs

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