

Resolution No. 5

Date: 6/9/2012

City: Washington, DC

NAHB Resolution

Title: Fall Protection
Sponsor: Construction, Safety & Health Committee
Submitted by: Don Pratt

WHEREAS, falls continue to be the leading cause of worker injuries and fatalities in residential construction;

WHEREAS, home builders, remodelers and trade contractors understand the importance of jobsite safety and regularly take steps to minimize the risk exposure to fall hazards and ensure their employees are protected from work-related falls;

WHEREAS, the recent changes to how the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) implements and enforces its fall protection standard in residential construction has led to greater confusion and compliance uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, home builders and trade contractors are unsure of what they must do to comply, especially in those situations where they believe that the use of conventional fall protection is infeasible and unworkable or their use creates a greater hazard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) urge OSHA to review and rework its fall protection standard to:

- 1) Make it more effective and less burdensome while providing protection to workers;
- 2) Be easily understood, implemented, and enforced and minimize any paperwork needed to demonstrate compliance;
- 3) Be tailored to address the individual risks posed by each of the various residential construction and remodeling activities, the temporary nature of many of these activities, and the business operations of the small businesses that make up a majority of the residential construction industry; and
- 4) Recognize that there are specific residential construction tasks/trades where it creates a greater hazard to use conventional fall protection and that using alternative fall protection methods in these situations is a viable option.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NAHB remain committed to providing training to and educating its members on how to reduce the risk of fall-related work injuries and how to comply with OSHA's fall protection regulation.

Board of Directors Action:

Approved

Executive Board Action:

Recommends Approval

Resolutions Committee Action:

Recommends Approval

Construction Safety & Health Committee Action:

Recommends Approval

Single Family Small Volume Builders Committee Action:

Recommends Approval

Single Family Production Builders Committee Action:

Recommends Approval

Custom Home Builders Committee Action:

Recommends Approval

NAHB Remodelers Board of Trustees Action:

Recommends Approval

Federal Government Affairs Committee Action:

Recommends Approval

Multifamily Council Board of Trustees Action:

Recommends Approval