

June 30, 2009

The Honorable Joe Manchin III
Governor of West Virginia
Building 1, State Capitol Complex
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Governor Manchin:

As the regulatory agency for the manufactured housing industry in the State, the West Virginia Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Board was asked by industry representatives to join them in seeking an extension to the current sales tax exemptions for homes sold in the flood district counties of Logan and Boone.

The current exemption, which industry welcomes and we endorse, has been extended in some of the flood-struck counties, but not these two in particular. As industry explained when the first extension was given, it takes an extraordinary amount of time to process the paperwork for these applications. Our fear is that many flood victims will be unable to process the necessary paperwork within the stated guidelines, particularly in the two counties where the extension was not granted.

Today, our board endorsed the industry's petition to request an extension of the tax exemption through the end of July for homes sold in Boone and Logan, as well as the other counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to express the will of our board on this issue. It is our opinion that this will help both the consumer and the manufactured housing industry, which has suffered some serious setbacks in recent months.

Sincerely,

David W. Mullins
Commissioner