



**April 21, 2022**

Governor Ron DeSantis  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**Re: Florida House Bill 7071**

Dear Governor DeSantis:

The Window and Door Manufacturers Association (WDMA) is a national trade association representing the leading producers of residential and commercial doors, windows, and skylights for the domestic and export markets. Our members sell to distributors, dealers, builders, remodelers, homeowners, architects, contractors, and other specifiers in the residential, commercial, and institutional construction markets. WDMA members manufacture high quality products designed and constructed to performance-based standards that provide improved safety, comfort, and energy efficiency in new construction, as well as remodeling and replacement projects.

WDMA writes today to express support for House Bill (HB) 7071 which recently passed the Florida Legislature on March 14, 2022. Among several provisions, HB 7071 would temporarily exempt impact-resistant window and door products from the state's sales tax collection beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. WDMA believes HB 7071 is a commonsense bill that would provide tangible safety and environmental benefits to a wide range of Florida homeowners and businesses.

According to data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Florida has experienced a total of 120 hurricane events since 1851, the most of any state in the U.S. during that time.<sup>1</sup> Further, hurricanes have inflicted over \$500 billion worth of property damage on the state since 1900.<sup>2</sup> Frequent hurricanes and other severe weather activity in Florida has heightened awareness regarding the need for more impact-resistant building products, such as windows and doors, to protect residents and property during weather emergencies.

This important piece of legislation will not only incentivize Floridians to invest in life-saving building technology but also ensures these products are more accessible to residents of all income levels. WDMA respectfully urges you to sign HB 7071 when it reaches your desk.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Please contact me at [mobrien@wdma.com](mailto:mobrien@wdma.com) with any questions.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/AE528>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/NormalizedHurricane2008.pdf>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael P. O'Brien". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael P. O'Brien, CAE  
President & CEO