

Submitter: Donna Bleiler
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB426

I OPPOSE SB 426.

SB 426 may say it is severally liable, but it makes the property owner as the direct contractor liable for when contractors they hire do not properly pay their employees, even though the landowner paid in full for the project. That is not severally liable and it doesn't make the constructing industry accountable for their laborers' wages.

The Official Staff Measure Summary says this bill is needed because " BOLI has a significant backlog for wage claims" and cannot help victimized workers. "Cannot"? Isn't protecting workers BOLI's priority?

Oregon State government is in the top five biggest spending state governments in America as measured by spending/per-capita. The last Oregon budget grew by over 20%. Where is the money going? Why are crime victims put at the bottom of the list and why are they making property owners their scape goat?

Property owners are making the biggest financial decision of their life and are extremely vulnerable. They are already a victim if their home is forced to stop construction due to a serious unpaid wage problem that the landowner has no connection to.