

Submitter: Rachel Freed

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
General Government

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5510

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 5510, which seeks to approve an increased fee adopted by the Construction Contractors Board. While I understand the need for regulatory bodies to maintain their operations, I believe that increasing fees at this time would place an undue burden on contractors and, ultimately, on consumers.

Firstly, the construction industry is already facing numerous challenges, including rising material costs and labor shortages. An increase in fees will further strain small and medium-sized contractors, potentially leading to higher project costs and reduced competitiveness. This could result in fewer opportunities for local businesses and could hinder the growth of the construction sector in our state.

Moreover, it is essential to consider the potential impact on consumers. Increased fees for contractors are likely to be passed down to clients, leading to higher costs for homes and infrastructure projects. This is particularly concerning in a time when affordable housing and accessible construction services are critical issues for many communities. We should be focusing on ways to reduce costs and support both contractors and consumers, rather than adding financial burdens.

Additionally, the justification for the fee increase should be thoroughly examined. Without clear evidence that these additional funds will lead to improved services or greater oversight, it is difficult to support such an increase. Transparency in how these funds will be utilized is essential to ensure that the construction industry and the public see tangible benefits from this change.

In conclusion, I urge you to oppose SB 5510 and advocate for alternative solutions that support the construction industry without imposing additional financial strain. It is vital that we prioritize the health of our local contractors and the affordability of construction services for consumers.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I hope you will consider my concerns as you deliberate on the implications of SB 5510.