

Submitter: Michelle Schwarz

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB426

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?

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.