HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 405

A bill to amend 1980 PA 497, entitled "Construction lien act,"

by amending sections 110, 115, 202, 203, 204, and 206 (MCL 570.1110, 570.1115, 570.1202, 570.1203, 570.1204, and 570.1206), section 110 as amended by 2001 PA 151, sections 115 and 203 as amended by 1982 PA 17, and sections 202 and 206 as amended by 1981 PA 191.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 110. (1) A contractor shall provide a sworn statement
- 2 to the owner or lessee in each of the following circumstances:
- 3 (a) When payment is due to the contractor from the owner or
- 4 lessee or when the contractor requests payment from the owner or
- 5 lessee.

- (b) When a demand for the sworn statement has been made by
 or on behalf of the owner or lessee.
- 3 (2) A subcontractor shall provide a sworn statement to the
- 4 owner or lessee when a demand for the sworn statement has been
- 5 made by or on behalf of the owner or lessee AND THE OWNER OR
- 6 LESSEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (6).
- 7 (3) A subcontractor shall provide a sworn statement to the
- 8 contractor when payment is due to the subcontractor from the
- 9 contractor or when the subcontractor requests payment from the
- 10 contractor.
- 11 (4) The A sworn statement shall list each subcontractor
- 12 and supplier with whom the person issuing the sworn statement has
- 13 contracted relative to the improvement to the real property. The
- 14 sworn statement shall contain a list of laborers with whom the
- 15 person issuing the sworn statement has contracted relative to the
- 16 improvement to the real property and for whom payment for wages
- 17 or fringe benefits and withholdings are due but unpaid and the
- 18 itemized amount of such wages or fringe benefits and
- 19 withholdings. The sworn statement shall be in substantially the
- 20 following form:

21 SWORN STATEMENT

- 22 State of Michigan)
-) ss.
- **24** County of)
- 25(deponent), being sworn, states the following:
- 26 is the (contractor) (subcontractor) for an improvement
- 27 to the following real property in County, Michigan,

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1 described as follows:
 2
 3
                   (insert legal description of property)
         The following is a statement of each subcontractor and
 4
 5
    supplier, and laborer for whom payment of wages or fringe
    benefits and withholdings is due but unpaid, with whom the
 7
    (contractor) (subcontractor) has (contracted) (subcontracted) for
    performance under the contract with the owner or lessee of the
 8
 9
    property, and the amounts due to the persons as of the date of
    this statement are correctly and fully set forth opposite their
10
11
    names:
12
     Name,
13
    ADDRESS,
14
      AND
15
     TELE-
16
     PHONE
                                                                    Amount
17
     NUMBER
                                                                      of
18
       of
                                                                    laborer
19
    subcon-
                                                           Amount
                                                                    fringe
20
     trac-
                                                             of
                                                                   benefits
21
      tor,
              Type of
                                                 Balance laborer
                                                                     and
                                                                    with-
22
      sup-
              improve-
                        Total
                                         Amount
                                                 to com-
                                                           waqes
23
                                Amount
                                                            due
                                                                   holdings
     plier,
                ment
                         con-
                                          cur-
                                                  plete
24
                        tract
                                                                   due but
                fur-
                                already
                                         rently
                                                   (op-
                                                            but
       or
25
              nished
                                  paid
    laborer
                        price
                                          owing
                                                  tional)
                                                           unpaid
                                                                    unpaid
26
27
                                  Totals
28
    (Some columns are not applicable to all persons listed)
         The contractor has not procured material from, or
29
    subcontracted with, any person other than those set forth and
30
    owes no money for the improvement other than the sums set forth.
31
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- 1 I make this statement as the (contractor) (subcontractor) or
- 2 as of the (contractor) (subcontractor) to represent to
- 3 the owner or lessee of the property and his or her agents that
- 4 the property is free from claims of construction liens, or the
- 5 possibility of construction liens, except as specifically set
- 6 forth in this statement and except for claims of construction
- 7 liens by laborers that may be provided under section 109 of the
- 8 construction lien act, 1980 PA 497, MCL 570.1109.
- 9 WARNING TO OWNER OR LESSEE: AN OWNER OR LESSEE OF THE
- 10 PROPERTY MAY NOT RELY ON THIS SWORN STATEMENT TO AVOID THE CLAIM
- 11 OF A SUBCONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, OR LABORER WHO HAS PROVIDED A
- 12 NOTICE OF FURNISHING OR A LABORER WHO MAY PROVIDE A NOTICE OF
- 13 FURNISHING UNDER SECTION 109 OF THE CONSTRUCTION LIEN ACT, 1980
- 14 PA 497, MCL 570.1109, TO THE DESIGNEE OR TO THE OWNER OR LESSEE
- 15 IF THE DESIGNEE IS NOT NAMED OR HAS DIED.
- 16 ON RECEIPT OF THIS SWORN STATEMENT, THE OWNER OR LESSEE, OR
- 17 THE OWNER'S OR LESSEE'S DESIGNEE, MUST GIVE NOTICE OF ITS
- 18 RECEIPT, EITHER IN WRITING, BY TELEPHONE, OR PERSONALLY, TO EACH
- 19 SUBCONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, AND LABORER WHO HAS PROVIDED A NOTICE OF
- 20 FURNISHING UNDER SECTION 109 OR, IF A NOTICE OF FURNISHING IS
- 21 EXCUSED UNDER SECTION 108 OR 108A, TO EACH SUBCONTRACTOR,
- 22 SUPPLIER, AND LABORER NAMED IN THE SWORN STATEMENT. IF A
- 23 SUBCONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, OR LABORER WHO HAS PROVIDED A NOTICE OF
- 24 FURNISHING OR WHO IS NAMED IN THE SWORN STATEMENT MAKES A
- 25 REQUEST, THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE SHALL PROVIDE THE
- 26 REQUESTER A COPY OF THE SWORN STATEMENT WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS
- 27 AFTER RECEIVING THE REQUEST.

1 2	Deponent
3	WARNING TO DEPONENT: A PERSON WHO GIVES A FALSE SWORN
4	STATEMENT WITH INTENT TO DEFRAUD IS SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PENALTIES
5	AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 110 OF THE CONSTRUCTION LIEN ACT, 1980 PA
6	497, MCL 570.1110.
7	Subscribed and sworn to before me on(DATE)
8	
9	Notary Public, County, Michigan.
10	My commission expires:
11	(5) The contractor or subcontractor is not required to list
12	in the sworn statement material furnished by the contractor or
 13	-
	subcontractor out of his or her own inventory that was not
14	purchased specifically for performing the contract.
15	(6) ON RECEIPT OF A SWORN STATEMENT, THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR
16	DESIGNEE SHALL GIVE NOTICE OF ITS RECEIPT, EITHER IN WRITING, BY
17	TELEPHONE, OR PERSONALLY, TO EACH SUBCONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, AND
18	LABORER WHO HAS PROVIDED A NOTICE OF FURNISHING UNDER SECTION 109
19	OR, IF A NOTICE OF FURNISHING IS EXCUSED UNDER SECTION 108 OR
20	108A, TO EACH SUBCONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, AND LABORER NAMED IN THE
21	SWORN STATEMENT. IF A SUBCONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, OR LABORER WHO HAS
22	PROVIDED A NOTICE OF FURNISHING OR WHO IS NAMED IN THE SWORN
23	STATEMENT MAKES A REQUEST, THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE SHALL
24	PROVIDE THE REQUESTER A COPY OF THE SWORN STATEMENT WITHIN 10
25	BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE REQUEST.

- 1 (7) $\overline{(6)}$ After the contractor or subcontractor provides the
- 2 sworn statement, the owner or lessee may withhold or, upon
- 3 written demand from the contractor, shall withhold from the
- 4 amount due or to become due to the contractor or to the
- 5 subcontractor for work already performed an amount sufficient to
- 6 pay all sums due to subcontractors, suppliers, or laborers, as
- 7 shown by the sworn statement, or due to lien claimants who have
- 8 provided a notice of furnishing under section 109. From the
- 9 amount withheld, the owner or lessee may directly pay
- 10 subcontractors, suppliers, or laborers the amount they are due as
- 11 shown by the sworn statement. If the contract provides for
- 12 payments by the owner to the general contractor in the normal
- 13 course of construction, but the owner elects to pay lien
- 14 claimants directly under this section, the first time the owner
- 15 elects to make payment directly to a lien claimant, he or she
- 16 shall provide at least 5 business days' notice to the general
- 17 contractor of the intention to make direct payment. Subsequent
- 18 direct disbursements to lien claimants need not be preceded by
- 19 the 5-day notice provided in this section unless the owner first
- 20 returns to the practice of paying all sums to the general
- 21 contractor. As between the owner or lessee and the contractor or
- 22 subcontractor, all payments made under this subsection are
- 23 considered the same as if paid directly to the contractor or
- 24 subcontractor. If an amount is withheld under this subsection
- 25 from the contractor or subcontractor, the owner or lessee, upon
- 26 request, shall prepare and provide to the contractor or
- 27 subcontractor an itemized statement of the sums withheld. If an

- 1 amount is paid directly to a lien claimant under this section,
- 2 the owner or lessee shall, if requested by the contractor or
- 3 subcontractor, provide to the contractor or subcontractor an
- 4 itemized statement of the sums paid.
- 5 (8) -(7) An owner, lessee, designee, mortgagee, or
- 6 contractor may rely on a sworn statement prepared by a party
- 7 other than himself or herself to avoid the claim of a
- 8 subcontractor, supplier, or laborer unless the subcontractor,
- 9 supplier, or laborer has provided a notice of furnishing as
- 10 required under section 109 or unless the notice of furnishing is
- 11 excused under section 108 or 108a.
- 12 (9) $\frac{(8)}{(8)}$ If a contractor fails to provide a sworn statement
- 13 to the owner or lessee before recording the contractor's claim of
- 14 lien, the contractor's construction lien is not invalid. However,
- 15 the contractor is not entitled to any payment, and a complaint,
- 16 cross-claim, or counterclaim may not be filed to enforce the
- 17 construction lien, until the sworn statement has been provided.
- 18 (10) $\frac{(9)}{(9)}$ If a subcontractor fails to provide a sworn
- 19 statement under subsection (2) to the owner or lessee before
- 20 recording the subcontractor's claim of lien, the subcontractor's
- 21 construction lien is valid. However, a complaint, cross-claim, or
- 22 counterclaim may not be filed to enforce the construction lien
- 23 until the sworn statement has been provided.
- 24 (11) -(10)— A contractor or subcontractor who desires to
- 25 draw money and gives or causes to be given to any owner or lessee
- 26 a sworn statement required by this section that is false, with
- 27 intent to defraud, is guilty of a crime as follows:

- 1 (a) If the statement involved is for less than \$200.00, the
- 2 contractor or subcontractor is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable
- 3 by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more
- 4 than \$500.00 or 3 times the statement amount, whichever is
- 5 greater, or both imprisonment and a fine.
- 6 (b) If any of the following apply, the contractor or
- 7 subcontractor is quilty of a misdemeanor punishable by
- 8 imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than
- 9 \$2,000.00 or 3 times the statement amount, whichever is greater,
- 10 or both imprisonment and a fine:
- 11 (i) The statement involved is for \$200.00 or more but less
- 12 than \$1,000.00.
- 13 (ii) The STATEMENT INVOLVED IS FOR LESS THAN \$200.00 AND THE
- 14 contractor or subcontractor -violates subdivision (a) and has 1
- 15 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit
- 16 an offense under this act.
- 17 (c) If any of the following apply, the contractor or
- 18 subcontractor is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment
- 19 for not more than 5 years or a fine of not more than \$10,000.00
- 20 or 3 times the statement amount, whichever is greater, or both
- 21 imprisonment and a fine:
- 22 (i) The statement involved is for \$1,000.00 or more but less
- 23 than \$20,000.00.
- 24 (ii) The STATEMENT INVOLVED IS FOR MORE THAN \$200.00 BUT LESS
- 25 THAN \$1,000.00 AND THE contractor or subcontractor -violates
- 26 subdivision (b) (i) and has 1 or more prior convictions for
- 27 violating or attempting to violate this act. For purposes of this

- 1 subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does not include a
- 2 conviction for violating or attempting to violate A VIOLATION
- 3 OR ATTEMPTED VIOLATION DESCRIBED IN subdivision (a) or (b) (ii) .
- 4 (d) If any of the following apply, the contractor or
- 5 subcontractor is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment
- 6 for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than \$15,000.00
- 7 or 3 times the statement amount, whichever is greater, or both
- 8 imprisonment and a fine:
- 9 (i) The statement involved is for \$20,000.00 or more.
- 10 (ii) The STATEMENT INVOLVED IS FOR \$1,000.00 OR MORE BUT LESS
- 11 THAN \$20,000.00 AND THE contractor or subcontractor -violates
- 12 subdivision (c) (i) and has 2 or more prior convictions for
- 13 committing or attempting to commit an offense under this act. For
- 14 purposes of this subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does
- 15 not include a conviction for -violating or attempting to violate
- 16 A VIOLATION OR ATTEMPTED VIOLATION DESCRIBED IN subdivision (a)
- **17** or (b) (ii).
- 18 (12) -(11) Statements FOR PURPOSES OF SUBSECTION (11),
- 19 STATEMENTS involved in separate incidents pursuant to a scheme or
- 20 course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated to
- 21 determine the total amount involved in the statements.
- 22 (13) -(12)— If the prosecuting attorney intends to seek an
- 23 enhanced sentence FOR A VIOLATION UNDER THIS SECTION based upon
- 24 the defendant having 1 or more prior convictions, the prosecuting
- 25 attorney shall include -on- IN the complaint and information a
- 26 statement listing the prior conviction or convictions. The
- 27 existence of the defendant's prior conviction or convictions

- 1 shall be determined by the court, without a jury, at sentencing
- 2 or at a separate hearing for that purpose before sentencing. The
- 3 existence of a prior conviction may be established by any
- 4 evidence relevant for that purpose, including, but not limited
- 5 to, 1 or more of the following:
- 6 (a) A copy of the judgment of conviction.
- 7 (b) A transcript of a prior trial, plea-taking, or
- 8 sentencing.
- 9 (c) Information contained in a presentence report.
- 10 (d) The defendant's statement.
- 11 (14) -(13)— If the sentence for a conviction under this
- 12 section is enhanced by 1 or more convictions, those prior
- 13 convictions shall not be used to further enhance the sentence for
- 14 the conviction pursuant to section 10, 11, or 12 of chapter IX of
- 15 the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.10, 769.11,
- **16** and 769.12.
- 17 Sec. 115. (1) A person shall not require, as part of any
- 18 contract for an improvement, that the right to a construction
- 19 lien be waived in advance of work performed. A waiver obtained as
- 20 part of a contract for an improvement is contrary to public
- 21 policy, and shall be invalid, except to the extent that payment
- 22 for labor and material furnished was actually made to the person
- 23 giving the waiver. Acceptance by a lien claimant of a promissory
- 24 note or other evidence of indebtedness from an owner, lessee, or
- 25 contractor shall not of itself serve to waive or discharge
- 26 otherwise valid construction lien rights.
- 27 (2) A lien claimant who receives full payment for his or her

Senate Bill No. 405 (H-1) as amended December 12, 2006

- 1 contract shall provide to the owner, lessee, or designee a full
- 2 unconditional waiver of lien.
- 3 (3) A lien claimant who receives partial payment for his or
- 4 her contract shall provide to the owner, lessee, or designee a
- 5 partial unconditional waiver of the lien for the amount which the
- 6 lien claimant has received, if the owner, lessee, or designee
- 7 requests the partial unconditional waiver.
- 8 (4) A partial conditional waiver of lien or a full
- 9 conditional waiver of lien shall be effective upon payment of the
- 10 amount indicated in the waiver.
- 11 (5) For purposes of this act, retainage which THAT is not
- 12 payable under a contract until the happening of a certain event
- 13 in addition to the providing of an improvement is not due as
- 14 of the date of the providing of the improvement.
- 15 (6) A waiver of a lien under this section shall be effective
- 16 when a person makes payment relying on the waiver unless at the
- 17 time payment was made the person making the payment has written
- 18 notice that the consideration for the waiver has failed.
- 19 (7) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (8), AN OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE
- 20 [SHALL] NOT RELY ON A FULL OR PARTIAL UNCONDITIONAL OR CONDITIONAL
- 21 WAIVER OF LIEN PROVIDED BY A PERSON OTHER THAN THE LIEN CLAIMANT
- 22 NAMED IN THE WAIVER IF THE LIEN CLAIMANT HAS EITHER FILED A
- 23 NOTICE OF FURNISHING UNDER SECTION 109 OR IS EXCUSED FROM FILING
- 24 A NOTICE OF FURNISHING UNDER SECTION 108 OR 108A UNLESS THE
- 25 OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE HAS FIRST VERIFIED THE AUTHENTICITY OF
- 26 THE LIEN WAIVER WITH THE LIEN CLAIMANT EITHER IN WRITING, BY
- 27 TELEPHONE, OR PERSONALLY.

1	(8) $-(7)$ An agent who is authorized to prepare and serve a
2	notice of furnishing -on behalf of a laborer or group of laborers
3	or an agent who is authorized OR to prepare, record, and serve a
4	claim of lien on behalf of a laborer or group of laborers is
5	automatically authorized to provide AND RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING
6	waivers of lien, unless or until the laborer or group of laborers
7	notifies the designee in writing that someone other than $-a$
8	previously authorized THE agent is -duly authorized to provide
9	appropriate waivers. An agent who is authorized to prepare and
LO	serve a notice of furnishing or a claim of lien on behalf of a
L1	laborer or group of laborers shall be responsible for providing
L2	waivers on behalf of such laborer or laborers pursuant to this
L3	section. An agent who is authorized to prepare and serve a claim
L 4	of lien on behalf of a laborer or group of laborers shall be
L5	responsible for providing waivers of lien on behalf of such
L6	laborer or laborers pursuant to this section. An individual
L7	laborer may also provide waivers - pursuant to UNDER this section
L8	instead of the agent.
L9	(9) $\overline{(8)}$ The following forms shall be used in substantially
20	the following format <u>in executing</u> TO EXECUTE waivers of
21	construction liens:
22	(a) PARTIAL UNCONDITIONAL WAIVER
23	I/we have a contract with to
24	(other contracting party)
25	provide for the improvement to the property
26	described as, and hereby

1	BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER waive my/our construction lien to the
2	amount of \$, for labor/materials provided
3	through
4	(date)
5	This waiver, together with all previous waivers, if any,
6	(circle one) does does not cover all amounts due to me/us for
7	contract improvement provided through the date shown above.
8	IF THE OWNER OR LESSEE OF THE PROPERTY OR THE OWNER'S OR LESSEE'S
9	DESIGNEE HAS RECEIVED A NOTICE OF FURNISHING FROM ME/ONE OF US
10	OR IF I/WE ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ONE, AND THE OWNER, LESSEE
11	OR DESIGNEE HAS NOT RECEIVED THIS WAIVER DIRECTLY FROM ME/ONE OF
12	US, THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE MAY NOT RELY UPON IT WITHOUT
13	CONTACTING ME/ONE OF US, EITHER IN WRITING, BY TELEPHONE, OR
14	PERSONALLY, TO VERIFY THAT IT IS AUTHENTIC.
15	
16	
17	(signature of lien claimant)
18	Signed on: Address:
19	(date)
20	Telephone:
21	DO NOT SIGN BLANK OR INCOMPLETE FORMS. RETAIN A COPY.
22	(b) PARTIAL CONDITIONAL WAIVER
23	I/we have a contract with to
24	(other contracting party)
25	provide for the improvement to the property
26	described as:, and hereby
27	BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER waive my/our construction lien to the
28	amount of \$, for labor/materials provided
29	through
30	(date)
31	This waiver, together with all previous waivers, if any,

1 (circle one) does does not cover all amounts due to me/us for 2 contract improvement provided through the date shown above. 3 This waiver is conditioned on actual payment of the amount 4 shown above. 5 IF THE OWNER OR LESSEE OF THE PROPERTY OR THE OWNER'S OR LESSEE'S 6 DESIGNEE HAS RECEIVED A NOTICE OF FURNISHING FROM ME/ONE OF US OR 7 IF I/WE ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ONE, AND THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE HAS NOT RECEIVED THIS WAIVER DIRECTLY FROM ME/ONE OF US, 8 THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE MAY NOT RELY UPON IT WITHOUT 9 CONTACTING ME/ONE OF US, EITHER IN WRITING, BY TELEPHONE, OR 10 11 PERSONALLY, TO VERIFY THAT IT IS AUTHENTIC. 12 13 14 (signature of lien claimant) 15 16 (date) 17 Telephone: DO NOT SIGN BLANK OR INCOMPLETE FORMS. RETAIN A COPY. 18 19 (C) FULL UNCONDITIONAL WAIVER 20 My/our contract with to 21 (other contracting party) provide for the improvement of the property 22 described as: having HAS been 23 fully paid and satisfied. - BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER, all my/our 24 construction lien rights against such THE DESCRIBED property 25 are hereby waived and released. 26 IF THE OWNER OR LESSEE OF THE PROPERTY OR THE OWNER'S OR LESSEE'S 27 28 DESIGNEE HAS RECEIVED A NOTICE OF FURNISHING FROM ME/ONE OF US OR IF I/WE ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ONE, AND THE OWNER, LESSEE, 29 OR DESIGNEE HAS NOT RECEIVED THIS WAIVER DIRECTLY FROM ME/ONE OF 30 31 US, THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE MAY NOT RELY UPON IT WITHOUT

1	CONTACTING ME/ONE OF US, EITHER IN WRITING, BY TELEPHONE, OR
2	PERSONALLY, TO VERIFY THAT IT IS AUTHENTIC.
3	
4	
5	(signature of lien claimant)
6	Signed on: Address:
7	(date)
8	Telephone:
9	DO NOT SIGN BLANK OR INCOMPLETE FORMS. RETAIN A COPY.
10	(d) <u>FULL CONDITIONAL WAIVER</u>
11	My/our contract with to
12	(other contracting party)
13	provide for the improvement of the property
14	described as: having HAS been
15	fully paid and satisfied BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER, all my/our
16	construction lien rights against such THE DESCRIBED property
17	are hereby waived and released.
18	This waiver is conditioned on actual payment of
19	IF THE OWNER OR LESSEE OF THE PROPERTY OR THE OWNER'S OR LESSEE'S
20	DESIGNEE HAS RECEIVED A NOTICE OF FURNISHING FROM ME/ONE OF US OF
21	IF I/WE ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ONE, AND THE OWNER, LESSEE,
22	OR DESIGNEE HAS NOT RECEIVED THIS WAIVER DIRECTLY FROM ME/ONE OF
23	US, THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR DESIGNEE MAY NOT RELY UPON IT WITHOUT
24	CONTACTING ME/ONE OF US, EITHER IN WRITING, BY TELEPHONE, OR
25	PERSONALLY, TO VERIFY THAT IT IS AUTHENTIC.
26	
27	
28	(signature of lien claimant)
29	Signed on: Address:
30	(date)
31	Telephone:

1 DO NOT SIGN BLANK OR INCOMPLETE FORMS. RETAIN A COPY.

- 2 Sec. 202. (1) The director of licensing and regulation THE
- 3 DEPARTMENT shall manage the -affairs of the fund pursuant FUND
- 4 ACCORDING to this act. A detailed financial statement of the
- 5 condition of the fund shall be published by the director
- 6 annually. This THE fund shall be subject to an audit by the
- 7 auditor general. The state treasurer shall deposit or invest
- 8 money from the fund, in the same manner AS and subject to all
- 9 provisions of law -with respect THAT APPLY to the deposit or
- 10 investment of state funds by the state treasurer, and interest
- 11 earned shall be credited to the fund. The unexpended fund balance
- 12 shall carry forward to the new fiscal year at the end of each
- 13 fiscal year.
- 14 (2) The department may employ —such— office clerical and
- 15 professional help and claims investigators as -are- necessary to
- 16 carry out the provisions of this act. The attorney general
- 17 shall assign members of his or her staff and may supplement that
- 18 staff by contracting with those private attorneys as are
- 19 necessary to adequately defend -the- actions against the fund.
- 20 All wages, professional fees, and other administrative
- 21 expenditures necessary for operation and defense of the fund,
- 22 including legal counsel, shall be charged to and payable from the
- 23 fund. Except -as provided in subsection (3) FOR LEGAL COUNSEL
- 24 FEES, THE AMOUNT PAID IN A FISCAL YEAR FOR wages, professional
- 25 fees, and other administrative expenditures -necessary for the
- 26 operation of the fund shall not exceed 20% of funds collected

- 1 by the fund in the previous fiscal year THE AVERAGE OF THE
- 2 ENDING BALANCES IN THE FUND FOR THE PREVIOUS 2 FISCAL YEARS.
- 3 (3) If the \$50.00 fee is not assessed against license
- 4 applications and renewals during a year under section 201, the
- 5 limitation on fund expenditures provided in subsection (2) shall
- 6 be calculated on the basis of the closest previous year in which
- 7 the \$50.00 fee was assessed and collected for license application
- 8 and renewals under section 201.
- 9 Sec. 203. (1) A claim of construction lien -shall DOES not
- 10 attach to a residential structure, to the extent payments have
- 11 been made, if the owner or lessee files an affidavit with the
- 12 court indicating that the owner or lessee has done all of the
- 13 following:
- 14 (a) Paid the contractor for the improvement to the
- 15 residential structure -and ACCORDING TO THE CONTRACT, INDICATING
- 16 IN THE AFFIDAVIT the amount of the payment. THE OWNER OR LESSEE
- 17 SHALL ATTACH TO THE AFFIDAVIT COPIES OF THE CONTRACT, ANY CHANGE
- 18 ORDERS, AND ANY EVIDENCE OF THE PAYMENT THAT THE OWNER OR LESSEE
- 19 HAS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A CANCELED CHECK OR A CREDIT
- 20 CARD OR OTHER RECEIPT.
- 21 (b) Not colluded with any person to obtain a payment from
- 22 the fund.
- (c) Cooperated and will continue to cooperate with the
- 24 department in the defense of the fund.
- 25 (2) In the absence of a IF THERE IS NO written contract
- 26 pursuant to- AS REQUIRED BY section 114, the filing of an
- 27 affidavit under this section shall create CREATES a rebuttable

- 1 presumption that the owner or lessee has paid the contractor for
- 2 the improvement. The presumption may be overcome only by a
- 3 showing of clear and convincing evidence to the contrary.
- 4 (3) Subject to section 204, a person who has recorded a
- 5 claim of lien and who is precluded from -recovering HAVING a
- 6 construction lien under subsection (1) may recover from the fund
- 7 the amount -for which the lien is established HE OR SHE WOULD
- 8 HAVE BEEN ENTITLED TO RECOVER BUT FOR SUBSECTION (1). A person
- 9 who seeks recovery from the fund shall establish all of the
- 10 following:
- 11 (a) That he or she would be entitled to a construction lien
- 12 on a residential structure except for the defense provided in
- 13 subsection (1).
- 14 (b) That payment was made by the owner or lessee to the
- 15 contractor or subcontractor.
- 16 (c) That the contractor or subcontractor has retained or
- 17 used the proceeds or any part of the proceeds paid to the
- 18 contractor or subcontractor without having paid the person
- 19 claiming the construction lien.
- (d) That he or she has complied with section 201.
- 21 (e) That he or she has not colluded with another person to
- 22 obtain a payment from the fund.
- (f) That he or she has complied with any applicable
- 24 licensing acts.
- 25 (g) That he or she has made a reasonable effort to obtain
- 26 payment from the contractor or subcontractor.
- 27 (h) That the contractor or the subcontractor with whom

- 1 the person claiming the construction lien contracted -with, is
- 2 licensed if required by law to be licensed.
- 3 (I) THAT THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR WITH WHOM THE
- 4 PERSON CLAIMING THE CONSTRUCTION LIEN CONTRACTED IS THE SAME
- 5 INDIVIDUAL OR LEGAL ENTITY WITH WHOM THE OWNER OR LESSEE
- 6 CONTRACTED.
- 7 (J) IF THE PERSON CLAIMING THE CONSTRUCTION LIEN IS A
- 8 SUPPLIER, THAT HE OR SHE HAS DOCUMENTARY PROOF THAT, UNLESS THE
- 9 SUPPLIER HAD PROVIDED MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT TO THE CONTRACTOR OR
- 10 SUBCONTRACTOR WITHIN THE PRECEDING YEAR, BEFORE HE OR SHE
- 11 PROVIDED THE MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE
- 12 LIEN WITHOUT OBTAINING ADVANCE PAYMENT IN FULL, HE OR SHE DID
- 13 BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:
- 14 (i) REQUIRED THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR TO WHOM HE OR
- 15 SHE PROVIDED THE MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT A
- 16 CREDIT APPLICATION.
- 17 (ii) BEFORE BEGINNING TO SUPPLY MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT TO THE
- 18 CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR WITHOUT OBTAINING ADVANCE PAYMENT IN
- 19 FULL, DID EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING, AS APPLICABLE:
- 20 (A) IF THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR IS A CORPORATION
- 21 WHOSE SHARES ARE PUBLICLY TRADED, OBTAINED A REPORT ON THE
- 22 CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR FROM A NATIONALLY OR REGIONALLY
- 23 RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES CREDIT RATINGS OF
- 24 BUSINESSES TO DETERMINE THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR
- 25 OR SUBCONTRACTOR.
- 26 (B) IF SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH (A) DOES NOT APPLY, DID BOTH OF THE
- 27 FOLLOWING:

- 1 (I) OBTAINED A CREDIT REPORT ON THE OWNER OR QUALIFYING
- 2 OFFICER OR THE PRINCIPAL PARTNERS, OFFICERS, SHAREHOLDERS, OR
- 3 MEMBERS OF THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR TO DETERMINE THE
- 4 FINANCIAL STABILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR.
- 5 (II) IF THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR IS LESS THAN 4 YEARS
- 6 OLD, OBTAINED A PERSONAL GUARANTY FROM THE OWNER OR 1 OR MORE OF
- 7 THE PARTNERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, MANAGING MEMBERS, TRUSTEES, OR
- 8 SHAREHOLDERS OF THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR.
- 9 (K) IF THE PERSON CLAIMING THE CONSTRUCTION LIEN IS A
- 10 SUPPLIER SEEKING TO RECOVER FOR MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED TO
- 11 A CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR WITHOUT OBTAINING ADVANCE PAYMENT
- 12 IN FULL, THAT A CREDIT REPORT OBTAINED BY THE SUPPLIER ON THE
- 13 CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR DID NOT DISCLOSE ANY OF THE
- 14 FOLLOWING:
- 15 (i) THAT THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR WAS, AT THE TIME OF
- 16 THE APPLICATION, OR HAD BEEN, WITHIN 2 YEARS BEFORE THE
- 17 APPLICATION, INSOLVENT.
- 18 (ii) THAT THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR WAS, AT THE TIME OF
- 19 THE APPLICATION, SUBJECT TO A RECEIVERSHIP.
- 20 (iii) TOTAL DELINQUENT JUDGMENTS OF MORE THAN \$1,000.00.
- 21 (4) A subcontractor, supplier, or laborer who seeks
- 22 enforcement of a construction lien on a residential structure
- 23 through foreclosure shall join the fund as a defendant in the
- 24 foreclosure action -, and WITHIN THE PERIOD PROVIDED IN SECTION
- 25 117(1). THE SUBCONTRACTOR, SUPPLIER, OR LABORER SHALL SERVE a
- 26 summons and complaint -shall be served on the -director OFFICE
- 27 OF THE FUND ADMINISTRATOR WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT by certified or

- 1 registered mail or by leaving a copy thereof— at the office.
- 2 of the director. The failure to serve a summons and complaint
- 3 upon the fund shall constitute a bar to UNDER THIS SUBSECTION
- 4 BARS recovery from the fund. After -service upon the defendant of
- 5 A DEFENDANT IS SERVED WITH a summons and complaint in an action
- 6 in which enforcement of TO FORECLOSE a construction lien,
- 7 through foreclosure is sought, the department may intervene in
- 8 the action as a party defendant with respect to other
- 9 construction liens.
- 10 (5) The attorney general shall make every reasonable effort
- 11 to defend the fund and may assert any defense to a claim of lien
- 12 that would have been available to the owner or lessee.
- 13 (6) A PAYMENT FROM THE FUND SHALL NOT INCLUDE INTEREST ON
- 14 THE UNPAID PRINCIPAL AMOUNT DUE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A
- 15 TIME-PRICE DIFFERENTIAL OR A FINANCE CHARGE, THAT ACCRUED AFTER
- 16 90 DAYS AFTER THE CLAIM OF LIEN WAS RECORDED.
- 17 (7) A PAYMENT FROM THE FUND TO A SUPPLIER SHALL NOT INCLUDE
- 18 MONEY DUE FOR MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED TO A CONTRACTOR OR
- 19 SUBCONTRACTOR WITHOUT OBTAINING ADVANCE PAYMENT IN FULL IF EITHER
- 20 OF THE FOLLOWING APPLIES:
- 21 (A) THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR WAS DELINQUENT IN PAYING
- 22 THE SUPPLIER FOR MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT FOR MORE THAN THE
- 23 FOLLOWING NUMBER OF DAYS AFTER THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY OF THE
- 24 MONTH FOLLOWING THE SHIPMENT OF THE MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT:
- 25 (i) IN 2007, 180 DAYS.
- 26 (ii) IN 2008, 150 DAYS.
- 27 (iii) IN 2009, 120 DAYS.

- 1 (iv) IN 2010 AND EACH YEAR AFTER 2010, 90 DAYS.
- 2 (B) THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR WAS INDEBTED TO THE
- 3 SUPPLIER IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO OR MORE THAN THE CREDIT LIMIT
- 4 ESTABLISHED BY THE SUPPLIER FOR THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR
- 5 AT THE TIME THE MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT WAS SUPPLIED.
- 6 (8) -(6) Payment from the fund shall be made only if the
- 7 court finds that a subcontractor, supplier, or laborer is
- 8 entitled to payment from the fund. Subject to section 204, after
- 9 the judgment has become final the department shall pay the amount
- 10 of the judgment out of the fund.
- 11 Sec. 204. The department shall not pay out of the fund to
- 12 subcontractors, suppliers, and laborers more than \$\frac{\$75,000.00}{}
- 13 \$100,000.00 per residential structure. When it appears that the
- 14 amount claimed from the fund $\frac{1}{1}$ with respect to a residential
- 16 department may delay payment until the total amount to be paid
- 17 can be ascertained. If the total amount payable to
- 18 subcontractors, suppliers, and laborers exceeds \$75,000.00
- 19 \$100,000.00, they shall be paid their proportional shares of that
- 20 amount.
- 21 Sec. 206. (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAINTAIN A WEBSITE. IF
- 22 THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A PAYMENT FROM THE FUND AS THE RESULT OF A
- 23 CONTRACTOR'S FAILURE TO PAY A SUBCONTRACTOR OR SUPPLIER, THE
- 24 DEPARTMENT SHALL POST ON THE WEBSITE THE NAME AND LICENSE NUMBER
- 25 OF THE CONTRACTOR AND THE NAME AND LICENSE NUMBER OF ANY
- 26 QUALIFYING OFFICER OF THE CONTRACTOR. THE WEBSITE SHALL BE
- 27 DESIGNED TO ALLOW A VISITOR TO SEARCH THE POSTED NAMES AND

1 LICENSE NUMBERS OF CONTRACTORS AND QUALIFYING OFFICERS.

- 2 (2) If the department makes a payment from the fund as the
- 3 result of a licensee's failure to pay a lien claimant, the
- 4 department shall enter a complaint against the licensee with the
- 5 appropriate licensing agency to be addressed by the disciplinary
- 6 proceedings under the appropriate licensing law.
- 7 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
- 8 unless Senate Bill No. 459 of the 93rd Legislature is enacted
- 9 into law.