

Good morning. My name is Beth Houser, I am the credit manager for a material supply company. I am also on the Board of Directors for Credit Professionals Alliance, and a Johnson County taxpayer. I am here to support Senate Bill 333.

This bill is about fair business practices within the construction industry.

Prompt payment and fair retainage laws make sense. I have worked in the construction industry for approx. 25 years, as a bookkeeper and as a credit manager. When a bid is put together for a public construction job, many times the bid is increased to cover the cost of cash flow problems created by slow, late payments during the course of the job. As a taxpayer, this concerns and angers me. We are paying the price for the lack of good construction laws. Senate Bill 333 will change that.

As a credit manager, I have witnessed many problems created for contractors and suppliers when construction project payments are not made in a timely manner. A contractor's credit history can be damaged due to cash flow problems caused by these bad construction practices. Many times, the unpaid retainage sitting on their acct.—which can sit there for years - takes up their credit limit & they can't purchase material for upcoming projects. This affects not only the many suppliers and contractors, but the contractor's subs, these companies' employee's income, and finally taxpayers in general that expect our laws to work in everyone's best interest. Our construction industry deserves fair laws that work for all of us—it's way overdue. Please support and pass Senate Bill 333. Thank you.