## Senate Bill 203

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## **SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Makes construction contractor obligation to provide Construction Lien Law information notice to owner applicable only for construction that requires written contract.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to construction contractors; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 87.093.

## Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

**SECTION 1.** ORS 87.093 is amended to read:

87.093. (1) The Construction Contractors Board shall adopt by rule a form entitled "Information Notice to Owner" which shall describe, in nontechnical language and in a clear and coherent manner using words in their common and everyday meanings, the pertinent provisions of the Construction Lien Law of this state and the rights and responsibilities of an owner of property and an original contractor under that law. The "Information Notice to Owner" shall include signature lines for the contractor and the property owner. The rights and responsibilities described in the form shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) Methods by which an owner may avoid multiple payments for the same materials and labor;
- (b) The right to file a complaint against a licensed contractor with the board and, if appropriate, to be reimbursed from the contractor's bond filed under ORS chapter 701; and
- (c) The right to receive, upon written request therefor, a statement of the reasonable value of materials, equipment, services or labor provided from the persons providing the materials, equipment, services or labor at the request of an original contractor and who have also provided notices of right to a lien.
- [(2)(a)] (2) Each original contractor shall deliver a copy of the "Information Notice to Owner" adopted by the board under this section to:
- [(A)] (a) The first purchaser of residential property constructed by the contractor and sold before or within the 75-day period immediately following the completion of construction; and
- [(B)] (b) The owner or an agent of the owner, other than an original contractor, at the time of signing a [written] residential construction or improvement contract with the owner.
- [(b) If the residential construction or improvement contract is an oral contract, the original contractor shall mail or otherwise deliver the "Information Notice to Owner" not later than five days after the contract is made.]
- (3) The contractor shall deliver the "Information Notice to Owner" personally, by registered or certified mail or by first class mail with certificate of mailing.
  - (4) This section applies only to a residential construction or improvement contract for which the

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- aggregate contract price exceeds [\$1,000] **\$2,000**. If the price of a residential **construction or** improvement contract was initially less than [\$1,000] **\$2,000**, but during the course of the performance of the contract exceeds that amount, the original contractor shall mail or otherwise deliver the "Information Notice to Owner" not later than five days after the contractor knows or should reasonably know that the contract price will exceed [\$1,000] **\$2,000**.
- (5) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (4) of this section, the original contractor need not send the owner an "Information Notice to Owner" if the owner is a contractor licensed with the board under ORS chapter 701.
- (6) Notwithstanding ORS 87.010 and 87.030, if an original contractor does not deliver an owner or agent with an "Information Notice to Owner" as required under subsections (2) to (4) of this section, the original contractor may not claim any lien created under ORS 87.010 upon any improvement, lot or parcel of land of the owner for labor, services or materials supplied under the residential construction or improvement contract for which the original contractor failed to deliver the required "Information Notice to Owner".
- (7) If an original contractor does not deliver an "Information Notice to Owner" to an owner or agent as required under subsection (2) of this section, the board may suspend the license of the original contractor for any period of time that the board considers appropriate or impose a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 upon the original contractor as provided in ORS 701.992.
  - (8) As used in this section:
- (a) "Residential construction or improvement" means the original construction of residential property and [constructing, repairing, remodeling or altering residential property and includes, but is not limited to, the construction, repair, replacement or improvement of driveways, swimming pools, terraces, patios, fences, porches, garages, basements and other structures or land adjacent to a residential dwelling] the repair, replacement, remodeling, alteration or improvement of residential property.
- (b) "Residential construction or improvement contract" means [an] a written agreement[, oral or written,] between an original contractor and an owner for the performance of a [home improvement] residential construction or improvement and [includes] all labor, services and materials furnished and performed [thereunder] under the agreement.
- (c) "Residential property" includes, but is not limited to, a residential dwelling and the driveways, swimming pools, terraces, patios, fences, porches, garages, basements, other structures and land that are adjacent or appurtenant to a residential dwelling.
- <u>SECTION 2.</u> The amendments to ORS 87.093 by section 1 of this 2009 Act apply to residential construction or improvement contracts that a contractor enters into on or after the effective date of this 2009 Act.