

Submitter: Eric Morgan
On Behalf Of: Northwest Carpenters Union
Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor
Measure: HB2057

My name is Eric Morgan and I am a representative for the Carpenters Union. I am writing today in support of HB2057 Wage theft and tax fraud is a growing concern not only myself but also the community that I live in. I encounter Wage Theft on a weekly basis at the job sites that we visit. Cash payments, non-payment and misclassification of workers are some of the tactics that unfair contractors use to undermine the bidding process of contractors that play by the rules. They continue to do this knowing that all they will get, if caught is a slap on the wrist. I was at a jobsite in Eugene Or on 2/22/23 where I made contact with a group of construction workers on a residential housing development, they shared with me that they were getting paid 18 cents per foot of drywall that they hung and that it was all in cash with a percentage of there pay takin off for a "processing fee". We come across this with Residential, prevailing wage and state funded jobs. How are companies able to compete with these dirty contractors that don't pay into social security, health and welfare, and taxes? The answer is that they can not compete. HB2057 will be a tremendous law that will level they playing field and will make the general contractors pay more attention to who they hire to get the job done.