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On Behalf Of:
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The cost of construction is already so high many of us can barely afford it, even if we do our own labor. We recently lost our shop building to an accidental fire. The insurance company paid the claim promptly, but we were underinsured. My companion is a retired contractor, so our best option is to reconstruct the building ourselves. We are putting it back onto the existing foundation. We were well on the way to framing the building when the building inspector stopped by and informed us we needed a building permit. We did not realize that, since the building is replacing one that was exactly the same size and it is a farm shop. So ... we jumped through the hoops to get a building permit flood plain survey, engineering inspection of the existing concrete, and preparing and submitting the needed forms. We have to do an electrical inspection later. This whole process cost us over \$3,000 and six weeks of summer while we waited for results. The permit expires the end of March. Given that we are two people, well over 60 years old, and that we were unable to work on the building for over 2 months this winter - there is no way we will be able to finish by the end of the permit. Now ... someone wants to pass a bill that puts in more regulations? I am exasperated beyond belief. Are the people proposing this owners of construction companies? The cost of housing is already so high most people can hardly afford to buy a home.