

HB0503S02 compared with HB0503S01

~~text~~ shows text that was in HB0503S01 but was deleted in HB0503S02.

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0503S01 but was inserted into HB0503S02.

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Representative Michael T. Morley proposes the following substitute bill:

CONSTRUCTION AMENDMENTS

2012 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Michael T. Morley

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions of the Utah Code relating to construction contract terms, bond claims, and lien claims.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ provides that, unless otherwise specified by contract, the interest rate applicable to a lien or bond claim is the statutory rate of 10% per annum;
- ▶ provides that the following are not exempt from providing preliminary notice of a payment bond claim or a lien:
 - a temporary labor service company;
 - a professional employer company or organization;

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- a union trust fund; or
- any other entity that provides or collects for labor; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

14-1-19, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1987, Chapter 218

14-1-20, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 299

14-2-1, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2004, Chapter 111

14-2-2, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2004, Chapter 111

14-2-5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 299

38-1-32.5, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 299

63G-6-506, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 299

63G-6-601, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382

ENACTS:

38-1-41, Utah Code Annotated 1953

53A-20-109, Utah Code Annotated 1953

63G-6-506.5, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **14-1-19** is amended to read:

14-1-19. Failure of government entity to obtain payment bond -- Right of action -- Notice.

(1) If the state or a political subdivision fails to obtain a payment bond, it shall, upon demand by a person who has furnished labor or supplied materials to the contractor or subcontractor for the work provided for in a contract which is subject to Section 14-1-18, promptly make payment to that person. [~~That person~~]

(2) A person described in Subsection (1):

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(a) shall have a direct right of action against the state or the political subdivision in any court having jurisdiction in any county in which the contract was to be performed, upon giving written notice to the state or political subdivision within 90 days from the date on which such person performed the last of the labor or supplied the last of the material for which claim is made~~[-The person]~~;

(b) shall state in the notice a designation of the construction project and its location, the amount claimed, and the name of the party for whom the labor was performed or to whom the material was supplied~~[-The notice shall be served]~~; and

(c) shall serve the notice by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, on the state agency or political subdivision that is a party to the contract. ~~[No such action may be commenced after the expiration of]~~

(3) An action described in this section may not be commenced later than one year after the day on which the last of the labor was performed or material was supplied by ~~[such]~~ the person bringing the action.

(4) Unless otherwise specified in a lawful contract between the state or the political subdivision against which the claim is made and the person demanding payment, the interest rate applicable to the payment or claim is the rate described in Subsection 15-1-1(2).

Section 2. Section **14-1-20** is amended to read:

14-1-20. Preliminary notice requirement.

(1) Any person furnishing labor, service, equipment, or material for which a payment bond claim may be made under this chapter shall provide preliminary notice to the designated agent as prescribed by Section 38-1-32.5, except that this section does not apply:

(a) to ~~[a person]~~ an individual performing labor for wages; or

(b) if a notice of commencement is not filed as prescribed in Section 38-1-31.5 for the project or improvement for which labor, service, equipment, or material is furnished.

(2) Any person who fails to provide the preliminary notice required by Subsection (1) may not make a payment bond claim under this chapter.

(3) The preliminary notice required by Subsection (1) shall be provided prior to commencement of any action on the payment bond.

(4) Subsection (1)(a) does not exempt the following from complying with the requirements of this section:

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(a) a temporary labor service company or organization;

(b) a professional employer company or organization;

(c) a union trust fund; or

(d) any other entity that provides labor or collects for labor.

Section 3. Section **14-2-1** is amended to read:

14-2-1. Definitions -- Payment bond required -- Right of action -- Attorney fees.

(1) For purposes of this chapter:

(a) "Commercial contract" means a contract for the construction, alteration, or repair of the following if it is not residential construction:

(i) a building;

(ii) a structure; or

(iii) an improvement upon land that is not associated with a single family detached housing.

(b) "Contractor" means any person who is or may be awarded an original commercial contract for the construction, alteration, or repair of any building, structure, or improvement upon land.

(c) "Owner" means any person contracting with the original contractor for construction, alteration, or repair of the following if it is not residential construction:

(i) a building;

(ii) a structure; or

(iii) an improvement upon land.

(d) (i) "Residential construction" means the construction, alteration, or repair of:

(A) single family detached housing; or

(B) multifamily attached housing up to and including a fourplex.

(ii) "Residential construction" includes rental housing.

(2) Before any original commercial contract exceeding \$50,000 in amount for the construction, alteration, or repair of any building, structure, or improvement upon land is awarded to any contractor, the owner shall obtain from the contractor a payment bond:

(a) complying with Subsection (3); and

(b) that becomes binding upon the award of the original commercial contract to the contractor.

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(3) The payment bond shall be:

(a) with a surety or sureties satisfactory to the owner for the protection of all persons supplying labor, services, equipment, or material in the prosecution of the work provided for in the commercial contract; and

(b) in a sum equal to the original commercial contract price.

(4) A person shall have a right of action on a payment bond under this chapter for any unpaid amount due that person if that person:

(a) has furnished labor, services, equipment, or material in the prosecution of the work provided for in the commercial contract for which the payment bond is furnished under this chapter; and

(b) has not been paid in full within 90 days after the last day on which that person:

(i) performed the labor or service for which a claim is made; or

(ii) supplied the equipment or material for which the claim is made.

(5) (a) An action under this section shall be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the county where the commercial contract was to be performed and not elsewhere.

(b) An action under this section is barred if not commenced within one year after the last day on which the claimant:

(i) performed the labor or service on which the claim is based; or

(ii) supplied the equipment or material on which the claim is based.

(c) The obligee named in the payment bond need not be joined as a party to an action under this section.

(d) In any action upon a payment bond under this section, the court may award reasonable ~~[attorneys']~~ attorney fees to the prevailing party, which ~~[attorneys']~~ attorney fees shall be taxed as costs in the action.

(6) The payment bond shall be exhibited to any interested person upon request.

(7) In any suit upon a payment bond under this chapter, the court shall award reasonable ~~[attorneys']~~ attorney fees to the prevailing party.

(8) Unless otherwise specified in a lawful contract between the owner and the person making a claim under this section, the interest rate applicable to the claim is the rate described in Subsection 15-1-1(2).

Section 4. Section **14-2-2** is amended to read:

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14-2-2. Failure of owner to obtain payment bond -- Liability.

(1) An owner who fails to obtain a payment bond required under Section 14-2-1 is liable to each person who performed labor or service or supplied equipment or materials under the commercial contract for the reasonable value of the labor or service performed or the equipment or materials furnished up to but not exceeding the commercial contract price.

(2) An action to recover on the liability described in Subsection (1) may not be commenced [~~after the expiration of~~] later than one year after the day on which:

- (a) the last of the labor or service was performed; or
- (b) the equipment or material was supplied by the person.

(3) In an action for failure to obtain a bond, the court shall award reasonable [~~attorneys'~~] attorney fees to the prevailing party. These [~~attorneys'~~] attorney fees shall be taxed as costs in the action.

Section 5. Section **14-2-5** is amended to read:

14-2-5. Preliminary notice requirement.

(1) Any person furnishing labor, service, equipment, or material for which a payment bond claim may be made under this chapter shall provide preliminary notice to the designated agent as prescribed by Section 38-1-32, except that this section does not apply to [~~a person~~] an individual performing labor for wages.

(2) Any person who fails to provide the preliminary notice required by Subsection (1) may not make a payment bond claim under this chapter.

(3) The preliminary notice required by Subsection (1) shall be provided prior to commencement of any action on the payment bond.

(4) Subsection (1) does not exempt the following from complying with the requirements of this section:

- (a) a temporary labor service company or organization;
- (b) a professional employer company or organization;
- (c) a union trust fund; or
- (d) any other entity that provides labor or collects for labor.

Section 6. Section **38-1-32.5** is amended to read:

38-1-32.5. Preliminary notice on government project.

(1) (a) Except for a person who has a contract with an owner or an owner-builder or a

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laborer compensated with wages, a subcontractor on a government project shall file a preliminary notice with the database by the later of:

~~[(a)]~~ (i) 20 days after the subcontractor commences the subcontractor's own work or commences furnishing labor, service, equipment, or material to the construction project; and

~~[(b)]~~ (ii) 20 days after the filing of a notice of commencement, if the subcontractor's work commences before the filing of the first notice of commencement.

(b) Subsection (1) does not exempt the following from complying with the requirements of this section:

(i) a temporary labor service company or organization;

(ii) a professional employer company or organization;

(iii) a union trust fund; or

(iv) any other entity that provides labor or collects for labor.

(2) A preliminary notice filed within the period described in Subsection (1) is effective as to all labor, service, equipment, and material that the subcontractor furnishes to the construction project, including labor, service, equipment, and material provided that the subcontractor furnishes to more than one contractor or subcontractor.

(3) (a) If more than one notice of commencement is filed for a project, a person may attach a preliminary notice to any notice of commencement filed for the project.

(b) A preliminary notice attached to an untimely notice of commencement is valid if there is also a valid and timely notice of commencement for the project.

(4) If a person files a preliminary notice after the period prescribed by Subsection (1), the preliminary notice becomes effective five days after the day on which the preliminary notice is filed.

(5) Except as provided in Subsection (8), failure to file a preliminary notice within the period required by Subsection (1) precludes a person from maintaining any claim for compensation earned for labor, service, material, or equipment furnished to the construction project before the expiration of five days after the late filing of a preliminary notice, except as against the person with whom the person contracted.

(6) A preliminary notice on a government project shall include:

(a) the government project-identifying information;

(b) the name, address, and telephone number of the person furnishing the labor,

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service, equipment, or material;

(c) the name and address of the person who contracted with the claimant for the furnishing of the labor, service, equipment, or material;

(d) the name of the record or reputed owner of the project;

(e) the name of the original contractor under which the claimant is performing or will perform its work; and

(f) the address of the project or a description of the location of the project.

(7) Upon request, an original contractor shall provide a subcontractor with the number assigned to the project by the designated agent.

(8) A person who provides labor, service, equipment, or material before the filing of a notice of commencement need not file a preliminary notice to maintain any right the person would otherwise have, if the notice of commencement is filed more than 15 days after the day on which the person begins work on the project.

(9) Subsections 38-1-32(2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) apply to a preliminary notice on a government project under this section to the same extent that those subsections apply to a preliminary notice on a private project under Section 38-1-32.

Section 7. Section **38-1-41** is enacted to read:

38-1-41. Interest rate on lien.

Unless otherwise specified in a lawful contract between the owner-builder and the person claiming a lien under this chapter, the interest rate applicable to the lien is the rate described in Subsection 15-1-1(2).

Section 8. Section **53A-20-109** is enacted to read:

53A-20-109. ~~{ Prohibited }~~ **Required** contract ~~{ methods and terms -- Required }~~ **terms.**

(1) As used in this section ~~f~~:

~~(a) "Differing";~~ **"differing** site conditions clause" means a clause in a construction contract that provides for an equitable adjustment to the contract in the event that the contractor discovers, and promptly reports to the government entity that contracted for the construction, the existence on the construction site of any of the following that were not known by the contractor at the time the contract was executed:

~~(f) a~~ **a** subsurface or latent physical conditions that differ materially from the conditions

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indicated in the contract; or

(~~iii~~) physical conditions of an unusual nature that differ materially from those ordinarily encountered for the type of construction or for the location of the construction site.

~~{ (b) "No-damage-for-delay clause" means a clause in a construction contract that prohibits a contractor from being compensated for damages caused by a delay that is the fault of the government entity that contracted for the construction.~~

~~† (2) A contract for the construction of a school building†~~

~~— (a) may not contain a no-damage-for-delay clause; and~~

~~— (b)† shall contain a differing site conditions clause.~~

Section 9. Section **63G-6-506** is amended to read:

63G-6-506. Preliminary notice requirement.

(1) Any person furnishing labor, service, equipment, or material for which a payment bond claim may be made under this chapter shall provide preliminary notice to the designated agent as prescribed by Section 38-1-32.5, except that this section does not apply:

(a) to ~~[a person]~~ an individual performing labor for wages; or

(b) if a notice of commencement is not filed as prescribed in Section 38-1-31.5 for the project or improvement for which labor, service, equipment, or material is furnished.

(2) Any person who fails to provide the preliminary notice required by Subsection (1) may not make a payment bond claim under this chapter.

(3) The preliminary notice required by Subsection (1) must be provided before commencement of any action on the payment bond.

(4) Subsection (1)(a) does not exempt the following from complying with the requirements of this section:

(a) a temporary labor service company or organization;

(b) a professional employer company or organization;

(c) a union trust fund; or

(d) any other entity that provides labor or collects for labor.

Section 10. Section **63G-6-506.5** is enacted to read:

63G-6-506.5. Interest rate for bond claim.

Unless otherwise specified in a lawful contract between a public procurement unit and the person making a bond claim against the public procurement unit, the interest rate applicable

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to the bond claim is the rate described in Subsection 15-1-1(2).

Section 11. Section **63G-6-601** is amended to read:

63G-6-601. Required ~~and prohibited~~ contract clauses -- Computation of price adjustments -- Use of rules and regulations.

(1) Rules and regulations shall require for state construction contracts and may permit or require for state contracts for supplies and services the inclusion of clauses providing for adjustments in prices, time of performance, or other appropriate contract provisions, and covering the following subjects:

(a) the unilateral right of the state to order in writing changes in the work within the scope of the contract and changes in the time of performance of the contract that do not alter the scope of the contract work;

(b) variations occurring between estimated quantities of work in a contract and actual quantities;

(c) suspension of work ordered by the state; and

(d) site conditions differing from those indicated in the construction contract, or ordinarily encountered, except that differing site conditions clauses required by the rules and regulations need not be included in a construction contract when the contract is negotiated, when the contractor provides the site or design, or when the parties have otherwise agreed with respect to the risk of differing site conditions.

(2) Adjustments in price pursuant to clauses promulgated under Subsection (1) shall be computed in one or more of the following ways:

(a) by agreement on a fixed price adjustment before commencement of the pertinent performance or as soon thereafter as practicable;

(b) by unit prices specified in the contract or subsequently agreed upon;

(c) by the costs attributable to the events or situations under the clauses with adjustment of profit or fee, all as specified in the contract or subsequently agreed upon;

(d) in any other manner as the contracting parties may mutually agree; or

(e) in the absence of agreement by the parties, by a unilateral determination by the state of the costs attributable to the events or situations under the clauses with adjustment of profit or fee, all as computed by the state in accordance with applicable sections of the rules and regulations issued under Subsection 63G-6-415(1) and subject to the provisions of Part 8,

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(3) A contractor shall be required to submit cost or pricing data if any adjustment in contract price is subject to the provisions of Section 63G-6-415.

(4) Rules and regulations shall require for state construction contracts and may permit or require for state contracts for supplies and services the inclusion of clauses providing for appropriate remedies and covering at least the following subjects:

- (a) liquidated damages as appropriate;
- (b) specified excuses for delay or nonperformance;
- (c) termination of the contract for default; and
- (d) termination of the contract in whole or in part for the convenience of the state.

(5) The contract clauses promulgated under this section shall be set forth in rules and regulations. However, the chief procurement officer or the head of a purchasing agency may modify the clauses for inclusion in any particular contract. Any variations shall be supported by a written determination that describes the circumstances justifying the variations, and notice of any material variation shall be included in the invitation for bids or request for proposals.

(6) (a) As used in this Subsection (6) ~~+~~:

~~—~~ ~~(i) +~~ ~~"{Differing}differing site conditions clause"~~ means a clause in a construction contract that provides for an equitable adjustment to the contract in the event that the contractor discovers, and promptly reports to the public procurement unit that contracted for the construction, the existence on the construction site of any of the following that were not known by the contractor at the time the contract was executed:

~~(A) i~~ subsurface or latent physical conditions that differ materially from the conditions indicated in the contract; or

~~(B) ii~~ physical conditions of an unusual nature that differ materially from those ordinarily encountered for the type of construction or for the location of the construction site.

~~{~~ ~~—~~ ~~(ii) "No-damage-for-delay clause" means a clause in a construction contract that prohibits a contractor from being compensated for damages caused by a delay that is the fault of the public procurement unit that contracted for the construction.~~

~~†~~ (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, a contract for construction entered into by a public procurement unit ~~+~~

~~—~~ ~~(i) may not contain a no-damage-for-delay clause; and~~

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~~(ii)~~ shall contain a differing site conditions clause.