



Construction Contractors Board

201 High St SE, Suite 600
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Salem OR 97309-5052
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E-mail: julie.t.nadeau@ccb.oregon.gov Web: www.oregon.gov/ccb

State of Oregon
Tina Kotek, Governor

Zoom Meeting Call In: 1 (669) 254-5252, Meeting ID: 160 019 7202 Passcode: 288623

The meeting is accessible to the public by telephone, video conference, or in-person attendance. To request video conference information, please contact Julie Nadeau by email at Julie.t.nadeau@ccb.oregon.gov at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

DRAFT
3/18/2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
CCB Board Meeting
Meeting held by Zoom Videoconference
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

	Page
Meeting Called to Order	
Roll Call	
Approval of the Agenda ACTION ITEM	(pg 1)
Board Calendar:	
Next Meeting: April 24, 2024 at 8:30 am.....	(pg 2)
New Business	
1. Proposed Fee Increase	ACTION ITEM (pg 3)
Adjournment	

The Board may meet in executive session under authority of ORS 192.660 from time to time. The specific statutory basis for the executive session will be announced on the record prior to the commencement of the executive session. Executive sessions are closed to the public. The Board may recess the public meeting, in order to deliberate privately, under authority of ORS 192.690(1). The public meeting will then reconvene for the purpose of decision-making. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting; contact Julie Nadeau by email at Julie.t.nadeau@ccb.oregon.gov or by phone at (503) 934-2217 to make arrangements.

2024 CCB Board Meeting Calendar		
DATE	NOTED ITEMS	LOCATION
February 21, 2024	Oregon Government Ethics	1st Floor Hearings Room or Teleconference via ZoomGov
March 27, 2024	Special Meeting: Proposed Fee Increase	1st Floor Hearings Room or Teleconference via ZoomGov
April 24, 2024	Ethics Training	1st Floor Hearings Room or Teleconference via ZoomGov
June 26, 2024		1st Floor Hearings Room or Teleconference via ZoomGov
August 21, 2024	KPM Best Practices Survey Finalized	1st Floor Hearings Room or Teleconference via ZoomGov
October 16, 2024		1st Floor Hearings Room or Teleconference via ZoomGov
December 4, 2024	Annual Performance Review of Administrator	1st Floor Hearings Room or Teleconference via ZoomGov

The following dates will be reserved for potential meetings in the event that urgent matters arise requiring immediate action by the Board. Board members and the public will be notified in advance when a meeting is going to occur and whether it will be held in person (Salem) or via Zoom teleconference.

- January 24, 2024
- May 22, 2024
- July 24, 2024
- September 18, 2024

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS BOARD

201 High Street SE, Suite 600
PO Box 14140
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503-378-4621



Memorandum

To: Construction Contractors Board
From: Chris Huntington
Date: March, 2023
Subject: Consider final action on proposed fee increase

Action Requested

Approve proposed CCB license fee increase rule for final adoption.

Background

CCB is a fee-for-service agency – service delivery is directly tied to fees paid by contractors. Unlike many other agencies, CCB's capability to ensure continuity of services is directly tied to economic activity in the construction industry. For CCB, this economic activity is reflected in contractor license fees. The agency closely monitors construction activity generally for any possible impact it may have on agency revenue and makes necessary adjustments in order to match available resources to service delivery.

Beginning in July of 2023 the board has been engaged in review and discussion related to the need for either revenue adjustments or service cuts in order to balance the agency's budget. Revenue generated by current fee rates will not support even existing service levels moving forward. Revenue and expenditure projections for the current biennium suggest an approximate \$2.0 million deficit between revenue and expenditures. The primary driver is labor cost inflation since the fee was last increased in 2010. Over that period, labor costs are up nearly 55%.

To be clear, the cost increase is not the result of significant growth in staffing. Rather, agency staffing has been relatively static since agency staffing was reduced in 2013 (61 in 2013, 59 as of March 2024). Over a period of years, the agency has taken steps to hold down costs by maintaining existing staffing levels, notwithstanding growth in the industry.

However, labor cost increases make this path unsustainable. The agency needs to make an adjustment in order to:

- Promote financial stability for the organization;
- Support continuity of services for our customers; and
- Ensure the viability of modernization efforts, which promise to significantly improve agency efficiency and reduce long-term costs.

During prior meetings, the board has provided direction to prioritize increasing revenue through fee increases to support current service levels as opposed to making the steep cuts that would be needed to balance the agency budget without additional revenue.

During the December meeting, the board approved for public rulemaking and comment a proposal that would increase the two-year contractor license fee by \$75 for a total of \$400. The fee increase would be implemented over a two-year period, beginning for renewals in July of 2024 and beginning for new applications in July of 2025.

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The board's decision to move forward with a proposed fee increase was based on the board's determination that the proposal is necessary in order to maintain adequate service levels and support modernization needs.

Factors Affecting the Proposed Fee Increases

As discussed during prior board meetings, there are numerous factors that weigh on the decision:

- **Last fee adjustment:** The agency's currently established fee was last adjusted in 2010, thirteen years ago. That adjustment was \$65. The prior interval between fee increases was just 6 years.
 - **NOTE:** During this interval the board also temporarily reduced fees from \$325 to \$250 during two biennia. This decision reduced reserves and also has some impact on the timing of this current set of proposed actions.
- **Personal services costs:** Costs of staffing have increased for the agency, as they have for almost all industries, including the construction industry. Since 2010 agency total labor costs are up almost 55%, notwithstanding reductions in total staffing.
- **Staffing-to-Contractor Ratio:** While agency staffing has remained static, the number of contractors has steadily increased since the end of the prior economic recession. In 2013, agency staffing was adjusted downward to 60 from 80+ at a time when there were approximately 35,000 contractors in the state. Since that time staffing has remained relatively static while the number of contractors has grown.
 - **2010: 1 staff member to 550 contractors**
 - **2024: 1 staff member to 847 contractors**
- **Critical Investments Needed:** Over the last several years the agency has taken steps to build reserves in support of a critically needed IT investment – replacement of the agency's 30+-year-old license database. Action on fees will allow the agency to protect the reserves that have been set aside for this purpose. The agency estimates the 5-year cost of the replacement to be \$2.1 million based on written estimates from multiple vendors. Failure to take action to adjust revenue will put the project at risk and set the agency back, limiting our ability to best serve our customers and become a modern and efficient organization.

Public Comment Period

Based on the approval the board granted at the December meeting, the agency filed a rulemaking and opened a public comment period in early January. The agency deliberately held a lengthy comment period, several weeks longer than what is required, in order to maximize opportunity for feedback. The consolidated comments are part of the packet for review.

In addition to the statutorily required notifications the agency also did the following:

- Sent out three separate notifications to our largest email list of approximately **88,000 recipients**:
 - A Bulletin sent on January 5, 2024 – Delivery success 94% -- Open rate 29%
 - Newsletter sent on January 12, 2024 – Delivery success 94% -- Open rate 22%
 - Final Reminder Sent March 1, 2024 – Delivery success 94% -- Open rate 25%
- Set up a web page dedicated to providing information about the proposed increase with prominent links on the agency's front page.
- Held two public information webinars to provide information about the basis for the proposal. The agency also recorded and posted the webinar. It was linked in the final reminder. The presentation from the webinar is also attached with these materials.

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Agency leadership has closely reviewed and considered all of the comments received and encourages the board to do so as well. In addition to comments on the fee proposal itself, there are many worthwhile suggestions about how the agency can perform our work in a fashion that will more clearly demonstrate the role and benefit that CCB plays in ensuring a level playing field for the construction industry in Oregon.

Regardless of final action approved by the board on the current proposal, agency leadership suggests that we convene some workgroups to discuss a range of topics included in the comments, including improvements to the education program and a long-term financial model that addresses some of the comments request for a planned schedule of possible increases based on pre-determined factors and exploration of a model that could feasibly reflect different types of entities without needlessly increasing workload and cost for the agency.

Proposed Action

The agency believes that the current proposal can be justified and is the clearest most certain path to provide solid financial support for the agency and ensure the viability of the sorely needed license system replacement project.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

LAVONNE GRIFFIN-VALADE
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHERYL MYERS
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE
AND TRIBAL LIAISON



ARCHIVES DIVISION

STEPHANIE CLARK
DIRECTOR

800 SUMMER STREET NE
SALEM, OR 97310
503-373-0701

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & FISCAL IMPACT

CHAPTER 812
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS BOARD

FILED

12/27/2023 9:25 AM
ARCHIVES DIVISION
SECRETARY OF STATE

FILING CAPTION: Proposed Construction Contractor Board Licensing Fee Increase

LAST DAY AND TIME TO OFFER COMMENT TO AGENCY: 03/14/2024 5:00 PM

The Agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.

CONTACT: Shannon Flowers
503-934-2229
shannon.flowers@ccb.oregon.gov

201 High Street Suite 600
Salem, OR 97301

Filed By:
Shannon Flowers
Rules Coordinator

HEARING(S)

Auxiliary aids for persons with disabilities are available upon advance request. Notify the contact listed above.

DATE: 03/13/2024

TIME: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

OFFICER: Shannon Flowers

HEARING LOCATION

ADDRESS: Beardsley Building, 1st Floor Hearing Room, 201 High Street NE, Salem, OR 97301

NEED FOR THE RULE(S)

OAR 812-003-0142 is amended to establish a fee increase to the CCB licensing fee from \$325 to \$400 for a two-year license effective July 1, 2024, for all renewal applications, and effective July 1, 2025, for all new licensees as authorized by the CCB Legislatively Approved Budget.

At the December 6, 2023 Construction Contractors Board meeting, Board members determined that a license fee increase was needed to adequately fund the CCB and maintain reserves for needed licensing system improvements. The last fee increase was effective July 1, 2010.

DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE

ORS 701 and OAR 812. A link to the documents is on the agency website at www.oregon.gov/ccb

STATEMENT IDENTIFYING HOW ADOPTION OF RULE(S) WILL AFFECT RACIAL EQUITY IN THIS STATE

No known impact to racial equity

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT:

OAR 812-003-0142 is amended to establish a fee increase to the CCB licensing fee from \$325 to \$400 for a two-year

license. This fee increase is effective July 1, 2024, for all renewal or reissue applications, and is effective July 1, 2025 for all new licensees.

This is an increase of \$37.50 per year or \$75 for a two-year license period. The last fee increase was effective July 1, 2010.

\$75 Renewal Fee Implemented July 2024; \$75 New License Fee Implemented July 2025

- Additional Agency Revenue 23-25: \$1.4M
- Additional Agency Revenue 25-27: \$3.6M
- Agency Ending Balance 23-25: \$3.92M (5.1 Months of operating cash)
- Agency Ending Balance 25-27: \$4.19M (5.0 Months of operating cash)

COST OF COMPLIANCE:

(1) Identify any state agencies, units of local government, and members of the public likely to be economically affected by the rule(s). (2) Effect on Small Businesses: (a) Estimate the number and type of small businesses subject to the rule(s); (b) Describe the expected reporting, recordkeeping and administrative activities and cost required to comply with the rule(s); (c) Estimate the cost of professional services, equipment supplies, labor and increased administration required to comply with the rule(s).

1. No additional state agencies or units of local government are likely to be impacted by this rule. Members of the public who are engaged in construction contracting, or who make use of the services of construction contracting businesses, may be minimally impacted by this rule.

2. (a) As of end of November 2023 there are 49,769 total licensees licensed by the Construction Contractor's Board, all of which will eventually be subject to this rule and fee increase. Information about business size is not reported to the agency; however, it is likely that a significant portion of licensees would qualify as small businesses.

(b) No additional reporting, recordkeeping and administrative activities and costs anticipated.

(c) No additional cost of professional services, equipment supplies, labor and increased administration anticipated for compliance with the rule.

DESCRIBE HOW SMALL BUSINESSES WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RULE(S):

The agency works with its Board to develop administrative rules. Several of the current nine Board members are business owners. The Board requested its Administrator conduct outreach to small business owners prior to adoption of the fee increase by the Board. The Board requested that the comment period for the rule extend through the 2024 legislative session and include a rulemaking hearing in March 2024 to allow anyone who wants to comment on the proposed rule to do so.

WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSULTED? NO IF NOT, WHY NOT?

The agency uses its Board which is made up of six contractors; one elected public official, and two public members who review and approve the agency's administrative rules. Some of the Board members are members of industry associations who discuss proposed rules with their associations and then report back to the Board on any information gleaned from such discussions. As noted above, the Administrator for the Board was also requested to conduct outreach to the construction community on this proposal and to report back to the Board on the information learned.

HOUSING IMPACT STATEMENT:

No anticipated housing impact.

AMEND: 812-003-0142

RULE SUMMARY: License Application Fees

CHANGES TO RULE:

812-003-0142

License Application Fees ¶¶

~~(1) Except as provided in section (6) of this rule effective July 1, 2024, the application fee for all renewal or reissued licenses is \$400. For applications received on or before June 30, 2024, the application fee for all new, renewal, or reissued licenses is \$325.¶¶~~

~~(2) Except as provided in section (6) of this rule, for the period from July 1, 2019, through effective July 1, 2025, the application fee for all new licenses is \$400. For applications received on or before June 30, 2024, the application fee for all new, renewal, or reissued licenses is \$325.¶¶~~

~~(3) Except as provided in section (4) of this rule, application fees will not be refunded.¶¶~~

~~(4) If a licensee submits an application to renew a license and the agency cannot renew the license because the applicant has formed a new business entity, the agency may refund the renewal application fee, less a \$40 processing fee.¶¶~~

~~(5)(a) Any licensee in the United States armed forces need not pay a license renewal fee if such fee would be due during the licensee's active-duty service.¶¶~~

~~(b) A licensee in the United States armed forces shall pay the next license renewal fee that will become due after the licensee is discharged from active-duty service.¶¶~~

~~(c) The agency may request that the licensee provide documentation of active-duty status and of discharge.¶¶~~

~~(d) Section (5) of this rule applies to licensees that are sole proprietors or partners in a general partnership.¶¶~~

~~(6) A new license issued pursuant to HB 4144 (2018) to a sole proprietorship that satisfies the requirements of HB 4144 and OAR 812-006-0162 does not require an initial application fee. This fee exemption expires on January 2, 2022.~~

~~Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 670.310, 701.238, 701.235, OR Laws 2018 Ch 46, Secs 1,2~~

~~Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 701.056, 701.063, 701.238, OR Laws 2018 Ch 46, Secs 1,2~~

Administrator Chris Huntington

Oregon Construction Contractors Board
201 High St. SE, Unit 600
Salem, OR 97301

Administrator Huntington,

Contractors and workers in Oregon support CCB's ongoing efforts to improve customer service and ensure a level playing field. We understand the agency must maintain adequate funding to provide services to both consumers and contractors. Efficient and timely processing of license applications, renewals, and contractor education is important for the success of our industry. We encourage the agency to make sure consumers are protected by making sure contractors are licensed and bonded. We ask that the agency endeavor to resolve consumer complains at the lowest level possible through mediation and dispute resolution, and when appropriate take steps to hold bad actors accountable.

Although no business or individual ever wants to pay more, we understand cost adjustments are necessary from time to time. We also understand CCB has not increased rates since 2011.

Going forward, we ask CCB to consider the timing of fee adjustments and work with industry to determine whether periodic increases would be a better path than larger increases on a less frequent rate. It is also important that CCB aggressively ensure the monies spent by contractors are used for the benefit of consumers and contractors, and to avoid using CCB funds to subsidize other government functions not related to construction.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment and the transparent communication from the agency. We support the agency's fee proposal.

Sincerely,



Name & Organization/Business	Position	Comment
Alan Dague, Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	I've been licensed since 2016 and have some frustration with the CCB. I was on hold for two hours, then forwarded to two different parties and finally placed back on the main menu where I was put back to number 37 in line. The only way I support paying any more money will be if the CCB will have better support for contractors. We don't mind paying more if we will have better resources. It's very frustrating to pay an entity that we cannot get resources we need from. Especially considering those resources are information. How can we confirm the legality of something if your office cannot verify it.
Benjamin Tighe, Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	<p>Greetings. I received the email regarding our fees increasing. Completely understandable. I would like to make a suggestion. The majority of the justification behind the rate increase is due to labor, but the CCB seems to operate about 20 years behind when it comes to applications and payments. I find it hard to believe that many of the day to day needs we have as contractors can't be handled more efficiently. For context, I am almost 40 years old, and the only faxes I have sent in the last 18 years was to the CCB. I will close by adding I have had nothing but wonderful service from the CCB and last year, for the first time since I entered the trades (2000) I came across your enforcement team. I appreciate what you do for our industry, but would love to see things evolve.</p> <p>Suggested he attend one of the forums. Response: Thank you for the update. Wasn't expecting a reply, nevermind this quick! I will definitely try to make one of the meetings, or at least view a recording.</p>
Brian (unknown last name), Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	I hope this means someone will answer your call.
Brian Frasure, Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	You would think if contractor fees are the main source of income for resolution department and other areas seems to me you should side more with contractors apose to siding with clients, in obvious fashion of course.contract is contract, however state of oregon seems to lean in there favor regardless, that, and the terrible oregon governed laws and pursuit to inflate and ruin our state following California's horrible laws and ways,.. things need to change, and that dont exclude a state of oregon building such as oregon ccb.
Bruce Griffen, Business/Organization: Phoenix Industries Inc	Indeterminate	I dropped my license when you went from 250 to 320 during the financial crisis.
David Burroughs, Business/Organization: Burroughs Construction	Indeterminate	<p>I don't remember ever receiving a discount on my contractors license.</p> <p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Directed him to licensing to check status.</p>
Eagle Cap Plumbing, Business/Organization: Eagle Cap Plumbing	Indeterminate	I'm still failing to understand why we have 2 entities that do the same thing. Bcd/DCBS and CCB. This seems very redundant and a waste of money and time. Can we get a clear description of what each agency does in detail. I feel that contractors are paying twice for the same service.
Jeromie Nutting, Business/Organization: Custom Drywall Inc	Indeterminate	<p>I propose that contractors that have had their license for over 10 years, skip the education Ccb hours and pay a fee of \$450... For license Renewal, as most of us specialize I one trade skill set, and not much more to be learned in the trade.. It would lower our cost and up your income needed..</p> <p>If the Contractor chooses to do his hours being licensed over 10 years then I would say \$325 plus core hour cost...</p>
Miriam Edell, Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	<p>It would be good to understand what the fees go for. We have not personally seen what CCB has done for our business except to provide a website with up to date licenses.</p> <p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Encouraged her to attend the informational meetings for more details.</p>

Ricky Young, Business/Organization: RY Construction	Indeterminate	<p>I have been a licensed general contractor in the state of Oregon for 25 plus years. Along with raising the fees I would love to see the CCB do an apprenticeship style program to be able to become a licensed general contractor. The 16-hour open book test is not a way to make sure that somebody is qualified to be a builder/general contractor. We allowed far to many people get licenses with no training whatsoever I have been back on many jobs to fix and repair shoddy work by incompetent contractors (illegal and legal) roofers, siders, sheetrockers and more. I will never say that I am the best at anything in this industry. I do try my best to give a customer a quality product and a good end result. If I wanted to be a plumber I have to go through a apprenticeship training course usually several years, if I want to be an electrician I have to go through a training course usually several years, HVAC is the same way. Every trade that isn't quote on quote a general contractor/builder takes several years of training to be able to become a journeyman or a top level in that trade. Why is it that the CCB thinks that a 16-hour open book test is enough to be able to be a general contractor? The only thing I can come up with is that it's revenue revenue revenue revenue! I don't mind paying but I'd like to see something done to actually make the construction industry better. We need to go to some type of an apprentice type structure where somebody vouchers for the needed training. Union training, hands on train from licensed contractor, college degree or something be able to go out and get a license that says they have experience in this business. My father was a licensed contractor for 40 years, I grew up around the business for my experience. In the last 25 plus years of my career I have seen the building industry change so much and not for the betterment of the industry. The industry is supposed to be better with the CCB, is it? I do not think it is. It just costs me more money!</p>
Roger Liles, Business/Organization: Roger Liles Construction	Indeterminate	<p>As an Oregon licensed contractor for more than 40 years, first in partnership with my dad, and then as a sole proprietor, I have never had the honor of anyone from your office ever visiting any of my job sites. Perhaps, that is a good thing, because I have never had a complaint against me to your office. So, here is my proposal. Rather than all contractors paying the same license fee, have a point system. For each complaint that a contractor license number receives, they would receive a point. Each point would have a dollar value which would be variable based on the severity of the complaint and the time and trouble it causes your office. Then, at license renewal time that contractor would pay an additional fee based on the number of points they have accumulated during the two years. The rest of us who have no interaction with your office, would be allowed to stay at the \$325.00 current fee. I have heard that the C C B fines contractors when legitimate complaints are lodged against them. The point system that I am suggesting, is in addition to the fines.</p> <p>Thank you for your time</p>
Romeo Sebrowski, Business/Organization: Cavalier Painting Inc	Indeterminate	<p>Shannon, have you guys considered having Category Fees as opposed to one lump fee. Right now as I now no longer have Employees I'm probably Grossing less than \$50k annually. Whereas A general Contractor could be pulling down 5 Million a year at the same fee. Just a thought...</p>
Vincent Hendricks-Davis, Business/Organization: Been There Cut That #217823	Indeterminate	<p>So I've noticed a list of contractors who get tickets that are on a monthly release. I'm curious are you ever going to release the same type of list for the customers of those contractors that have refused to pay at the fault of that customer? Considering it's public information for the contractor why can't it be public information for that customer?</p> <p>Contractor should have the allowance of the same warning that you allow the customers to have access to. Just saying if we're going to talk about accountability while raising the rates for insurance needs and licensing I would expect a little more work from your side in the name of accountability.</p> <p>I'm an honest contractor that does honest work that has never had any issues but I've heard horror stories from others that I know are great contractors that don't get paid and have to go to court and everybody's always on the side of the customer. Why is this? I would assume it's because there's no accountability for anybody other than the contractor. Not even the folks who govern the contractors are held accountable for their mistakes.</p> <p>Feel free to respond if you could find a decent response.</p>

Michelle Goguen, Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	<p>For a 25% increase in fees, I want to know what extra service you will provide. Per your own communications, the industry has grown in size. This means that you have additional income. Why the 25% increase? "To maintain financial stability" could mean that you have mismanaged funds in the past.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do we know you are fiscally responsible? 2. Will you be transparent about how all funds are allocated and spent? <p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Responded to her email with link to Fee Increase section of our website</p>
Dennis Grant, Business/Organization: Dennis R Grant Construction LLC	Indeterminate	<p>I don't know if it an option or not but I would propose that the CCB use a sliding scale (based on gross sales) to determine the cost of a CCB license. I am mostly retired now after having a CCB license since 1977 (Originally #17360 and then #209549 after I formed an LLC in 2016). I do continue to work part time but with the rising costs of maintaining my license I wonder how much longer that it will be beneficial to do so. As of this year it runs around \$3,000.00 a year to maintain my license. Another increase would not be helpful. It seems that it is beneficial to the industry for us "Old timers" to still be involved in our trade.</p>
Thomas Reed, Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	<p>I propose the rates for CCB fees should be proportionate to the type of license. For example, a General Contractor probably makes substantially more each year than a residential specialty locksmith. Their license could be more expensive as a result. We appreciate the enforcement CCB does to keep construction related issues to a minimum. Perhaps fines should also be raised to help with costs if they haven't been already.</p>
Russel Wilett, Business/Organization: General Contractor	Indeterminate	<p>There are too many unlicensed contractors in our state. They advertise on social media for work and they say that they are licensed. On social media! There is at least 20 unlicensed contractors working in the mt hood area. I would like to see you do something about it!! Please!</p>
Neal Frank, Business/Organization: CCB #130690	Indeterminate	<p>I would like to see some consideration go into giving contractors with over 20 years of unblemished licensed trade service without any issues be given some kind of discount for their record. Instead of them having to pay for those who can not keep a clean and respectful record. It seems only fair to be able to recognize those who do well and not just the ones who don't.</p> <p>Thank you for this opportunity to voice.</p>
Ted Dignan, Business/Organization: #164830	Indeterminate	<p>Good morning. How does the fee increase affect in active licenses?</p> <p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: CCB provided response with explanation of existing law and application of new fee amounts</p>
Don Pachal, Business/Organization: Eagle Construction #180351	Indeterminate	<p>I think we should be able to vote on the fee increase, tired of fees being raised without our vote. We should also be able to vote on whether we need all of the services and requirements mandated by the ccb</p>
John Wu, Business/Organization: Trinity Design and Construction	Indeterminate	<p>I recommend the CCB have only a modest fee increase (\$25) for renewals on active licenses (that have not received disciplinary action or required enforcement). This grandfathering in will soften the blow of the increase for those in good standing.</p> <p>New licenses or those in bad standing would be subject to the full proposed increase.</p>
K George, Business/Organization: Unknown	Indeterminate	<p>Please consider a scaled pricing. Price increases make more sense for the people who are making big money. Otherwise you will backwards encourage people to not get licensed. Barriers to joining are real for disadvantaged populations.</p>

Unknown, Business/Organization: Lite Rite Electric	Indeterminate	<p>Not opposed to a fee increase, with the provision that all employees involved with this increase are subject to an independent audit. This independent audit must conclude that all personnel receiving resources from this increase in fees must be evaluated and be found in compliance with wage and salary increases, including benefits, with all other public and private employees working in the State of Oregon. Every agency in our government should be subject to this review. This will bring accountability to all government in Oregon.</p> <p>If this Audit does not show favorably for the citizens of Oregon, then no increase!</p>
Kurt Bolser, Business/Organization: Past Board Member	Indeterminate	<p>At the end of my last term on the CCB Board, I voiced my concern about an across-the-board license fee increase. I agree that the license fee should be increased given what the CCB has gone through financially over the past few years and CCB's needs going forward. Implementing an across-the-board increase of \$75 is a regressive (Tax?) approach that imposes a greater burden on small contractors than on large contractors. We should all pay our fair share of the needed increase. The approach that I suggested was an increase that is scaled based on the size of a contractor's gross annual income, the smaller contractors paying less of the increase and larger contractors paying more. Yes this approach is probably more work for Staff but it is more equitable for the industry that CCB is supposed to be serving/supporting.</p> <p>Kurt J Bolser Past Board Member</p>
Seneca Siegel, Business/Organization: Seneca Works	Indeterminate	<p>Greetings!</p> <p>I have been a contractor since 2016. When I finished my test, I drove down to the CCB office, handed in my paperwork, and was able to leave with a license number. Since then, I have helped a number of my friends try to navigate the various obstacles and tests needed to get licensed as contractors. The reason I am emailing today is that I am utterly astonished at the time it is taking the CCB to process their requests for licenses. One of my friends has been waiting to hear back since he turned in all his paperwork in November. Another turned his paperwork in in the beginning of January. Neither of them have heard anything back. They call in to the CCB to try and inquire about the status and they receive terse answers that are not helpful. They check the website everyday to see if they have a license and still do not. Another one of my friends said it took the CCB 6 months to get him his license.</p> <p>This is a problem and I am glad you are trying to do something about it. The CCB really really needs to hire more people to handle license requests. I can't stress this enough. If this was a company I was trying to do business with, I would simply look for a different company to go with but we cannot. Contractors are stuck with the CCB and there are no other alternatives to licensure. The inaction of the CCB to remedy this situation is depriving many people of a way to make a living and probably forces many to do work illegally.</p> <p>As far as where the money comes from to add additional staff to facilitate license requests, I really don't care if I have to pay \$75 more dollars every two years to renew my license. But is that actually going to be enough to get the CCB back on track? 10 to 14 days used to be the amount of time given to fulfill a license request. That seems reasonable. But can the CCB deliver? Will my biyearly \$75 make that a reality? I'm not so sure. This issue needs to be fixed before any more faith in the CCB's ability to function adequately is eroded.</p>

<p>Bill Smith, Business/Organization: Parker Smith and Feek</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>	<p>I am writing you this email to bring up an issue that does not look favorably on the CCB, especially with the proposed fee increases. The CCB wants to institute higher fees, yet the CCB service is lacking. I recently had numerous clients impacted by the CCB and their lack of the staff doing their job. With the recent \$5,000 increase (1/1/24) in the required CCB bond amounts for contractors, I had several clients where the CCB recognized the increase in the clients' residential bonds, yet the CCB didn't recognize the increase in the commercial bonds, despite getting a rider from the surety increasing the bond amount for both bonds. How can the CCB update one of the bonds yet ignore the other? This resulted in clients getting a notice from the CCB that they were out of compliance, when in fact they were not. In one case, a general contractor who was using one of my clients on one of their jobs, put the subcontractor on notice for noncompliance when in fact they were not out of compliance. The CCB did not do their job and created not only an embarrassing situation for my client but also could have ultimately cost them a project and lost revenues/profits. I would have instructed the client to sue the State for negligence. This is inexcusable being the CCB recognized the residential bond increases and not the commercial bond increases. In another situation, one of my clients was notified they were not in compliance with BOLI as their \$30,000 Public Works bond was not in force. Through investigation with the CCB, not only did the CCB have all their licenses bonds in force for this client, but it was discovered the BOLI bond was in the hands of the CCB, but the staff didn't update the system. It was simply put in a file or wherever copies of bonds are stored at the State level. Again, this is inexcusable. I have been a surety professional for over 35 years both on the broker and surety company side of the business. I am appalled at the lack of professionalism and support by CCB recently who is not doing their job and yet they want more money. Fix your problems before you ask for more money. If it is the lack of training, then train better. The CCB should be focused more on serving the folks that pay their fees and be willing to investigate, dig deeper and be curious as to their client's needs and not just checking a box. The CCB employees are public servants and as a tax paying Oregonian I expect more service not less service for my dollars. Having contractors pay more for less is not how the CCB should be handling their affairs. Thank you for your time.</p>
<p>Cody Aschenbrenner , Business/Organization: Silver Lining Construction</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>	<p>The fact is that \$75 every 2 years will not hurt the bottom line of each contractor individually. I can see where the increase will benefit the CCB as a singular agency by leaps and bounds.</p> <p>You are proposing a 23% increase in Revenue for the CCB to be forced immediately, all at once. Where are the analytics that support your request for this increase?</p> <p>The CCB asks us to have faith that this increase is necessary to continue to provide the services already in place. In my 11 years as a licensed contractor I have been visited by a CCB field agent only 2 times. The only thing the agents ever asked is that I rat out any unlicensed operations I may know of in my area.</p> <p>In my opinion, the CCB is yet another suppressive bureaucracy soaking finances from hard working, blue collar Americans. I have never once witnessed the benefit, to me as a contractor, of the CCB at all.</p>
<p>John Benton, Business/Organization: Fusion Plumbing</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>	<p>As a business owner I understand the increase in cost on almost everything. I'm not sure if you own a business or not but the sheer cost of running a company is staggering, from insurances, licenses, parts, fuel, vehicles, the list goes on forever. I implore you to consider the small 1-2-man shops versus the larger 20-30-man companies. Please look at it from my perspective of being a 1-2-person level shop. I try very hard to keep cost down to be allowed to pass this on to my client base. Increases like this will force companies to have to possibly raise there hourly rate which in turn could possibly back lash and actually lose clients. Thank you for your time.</p>

Keldon Plude, Business/Organization: Onyx Property Solutions	Indeterminate	<p>While I understand that costs change and the CCB hasn't increased its fees in 14 years, I have a hard time supporting this increase. I am a small general contractor just starting out with very limited revenue. I already pay hundreds if not thousands of dollars for insurance and bonds and licensing fees every year. For a small contractor like me all these costs add up fast and make it hard to be profitable. I suggest perhaps increasing fees only for those larger contractors who can afford it. Implementing a tiered fee system based on company revenue and/or other factors seems more fair.</p>
Tony Tulich, Business/Organization: Precision Property Inspection	Indeterminate	<p>I was recently reading an email regarding the increase in CCB license fee and had one question and one comment.</p> <p>1) What happens to the funds collected from CCB members found guilty on a charge, whatever that might be. Assuming that money goes directly into the CCB account, a) on average what is that gross revenue? b) how is that revenue spent?</p> <p>2) (Comment) As a small business owner, in hard times, even though the amount is small, all of our base running costs are increasing, insurance, fuel, labor etc. At what point does it stop?</p> <p>Thank you for hearing me out, I greatly appreciate it.</p>

<p>Kal Lambert, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>	<p>I suggest that a portion of any future rate increases be directed to State IT retooling for publishing customer complaints against CCB licensees. The recent round of RE inflation has lead to an astonishing dilation in quoted tradesman's rates in our Astoria community, ranging from 12K from Terry's Plumbing to 4K from JP Plumbing for a similar scope of work if done this month, for example. How do we justify a 300% increase in prices in 6 months since Covid for some vendors and no increase by other seasoned professionals? This looks predatory.</p> <p>What is needed is a yardstick that shows cost of related services and grade of service rendered as evaluated by two groups of consumers, those who actually had the work done, and those who had estimates but chose not to pursue the proposal due to cost or other misgivings.</p> <p>This comparative shopping would be facilitated by a well-marked subpage on your website and a 6 to 12 month rolling tabular window. I cannot overstate the value the State can provide by being an information clearinghouse AND providing educational tools to prevent consumers from being buffaloes into unnecessary or nonstandard repairs and upgrades.</p> <p>These people also need to have a rule on record that states that if costs of estimation are to be billable separately under some circumstances, that policy should be presented up front at the time the appointment is made.</p> <p>There are also environmental concerns. The State has a significant volume of untreated sewage, for example, that ends up in the Columbia River in our area, but no way to incentivize property owners to replace damaged or deteriorated sewage systems. I feel that a state price information system can help bring competition to the related businesses, reduce the plethora of misinformation provided by various vendors, and assist city inspectors in knowing what is being done (or not done) that is unpermitted and is a problem for the crab and salmon community at large.</p> <p>Please get back to me with an individual at the Bureau who has some insight into Columbia River sanitation "point source" contamination. I would like to identify a contributor for a journal article that will appear in the Oregonian and the Daily Astorian in the next few months that focuses on the "caveat emptor" side of the predatory pricing problem, but also on the public conservation issue of preventing untreated sewage in a body of water that is essential to the state's green reputation and economic future.</p> <p>I look forward to some suggested names of your associates. Thank you</p>
<p>Steve Livingston, Business/Organization: CCB# 190145</p>	<p>Indeterminate</p>	<p>To whom it may concern, Wouldn't mind if our rates go up some. Think 350.00 is fare. Should raise the fine rates to compensate the rest so the ligament contractors are not paying so much more to be legal.</p>
<p>Derek Pacheco, Business/Organization: Pacheco Built</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Of course I don't support price increases, but also understand the point of it. I guess the only question I have is with the increase in price, will there be an increase in services provided? Would there be a way to increase the validity of your license for three years instead of 2? Either way thank you guys for being a useful resource and keeping me legal and in business.</p>

Anna Kharisova, Business/Organization: Arka Cabinets	Oppose	I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed increase in the cost of contractor licenses in Oregon. While I understand the need for revenue to support essential services and infrastructure, it is crucial to consider the impact of such increases on the backbone of our economy – small businesses. Oregon's small businesses are already grappling with a challenging economic landscape, compounded by the burdens of excessive taxes and fees that increase annually. The proposed hike in contractor license costs would only add to the financial strain these businesses are facing, creating an additional hurdle for their survival and growth, and putting us at a severe disadvantage compared to larger construction businesses in the state.
Artie Kiryuta, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Stop making everything more expensive we have family's to feed.
Austin Selle, Business/Organization: All You Need Maintenance & Construction #218169	Oppose	Hello my name is austin selle I am Ccb #218169 I would like to take a minute and point out we as contractors have gone through the same roughly 55% cost increase paying our employees. Our gl insurance mandatory minimums where just raised in 2023 workers comp costs are up, materials are through the roof. I know everyone is experiencing cost increases but the contracting industry is very much maxed out in price people are upset with contractor prices and if you raise our Ccb fee your just adding to the rise of expenses that fall on the consumer, we as licensed contractors have already proven we want to support the licensing process but we can't keep raising our prices to the consumer this fee increase will come out of the personal pocket of every contractor In the state. Please reconsider the fee increase. Thank you for listening Austin selle Ccb# 218169
Benjamin Smith, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I vote against the increase of license costs because it makes it harder for new contractors to start up and \$325 is plenty of money as is. Thanks.
Bob Thornbrue, Business/Organization: PDX Fast Framer	Oppose	The ccb is not here for me. They have never done a thing but make things difficult for a contractor. Stopping by my job, wasting time I don't have. Continued education? Seriously. Paying to watch a video that's based on 3rd grade education? You are protecting homeowners. They are the ones who need the fines for hiring unlicensed contractors. I bid against unlicensed contractors all the time. Your team of ccb police is not even scratching the surface. Fire them already! Learn to manage your budget!! Affordable housing? Portland permit cost are absolutely insane. The highest in the world perhaps? Prove me wrong? And the ccb is right there with them. Taking money but providing nothing. Start fining property owners for using unlicensed contractors. Manage your money and stop running, what was a great State, into the ground. Please
Cameron Aggas, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I am against a fee increase so I vote no.
Cedric Lossing, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I am very much not in favor of fees, being raised, I have not received any helpful service from Ccb and resent paying more money for something that doesn't help at all
Chad Powell, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I think the rate should go down not up, the organization should start looking for ways to help provide better services for us paying contractors, and not looking for more ways to nab more fees from us.
Connor Ross, Business/Organization: Collage Tree Care LLC #229952	Oppose	As a younger and less profitable contractor that receives close to no benefits from this organization I see absolutely no reason to expand its funding. At the very least the fee structure should be based on income or be put to the public, particularly large developers who are mutilating our cities for the gain of very few. A resounding "No" from me.

Cooper Reid, Business/Organization: W. Cooper Reid Construction	Oppose	As a licensed contractor for over 40 years and in Oregon for the last 4 years, CCB 235052, it is my opinion the tge CCB should be self supported. However government waste continues to be a problem in all ares of government including the CCB. Like the rest of us tge CCB needs to be more frugal and less wasteful of resources. Over regulation and over bearing government beauracrcies such as the CCB need to realize we are not all making the big bucks in our little towns. Tighten your own belt before you start digging into my wallet. I vote no on the increase no matter how much it is.
Darryl Storey, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Please no more fees. We have been taxed and fee d to death. Surely with the record high contractor enrollment the CCB is flush with money and if not cut backs are in order. Enforcement surely pays its way and recent code changes have proven to be a joke! Insulation and fresh air changes have been known to cause mold issues , so code change departments need to be done away with. No more taxes!!! Darryl Storey
Daryl Tewalt, Business/Organization: Tewalt and Sons Inc	Oppose	It seems to me that the costs should be going down with all the automated computer systems taking all the work load. This should make room for the existing employees to sufficiently do their jobs well within their allotted time. All the while creating a comfortable work environment without pressure to work overtime and easily schedule vacation time. The current economic forecast is bleak for the housing market. Raising the fees and hiring more people could be unsustainable and create a false sense of hope for the new employees and drag down the seasoned employees who have wasted valuable time training the new hires. This could force management into a corner trying to manage their way through a disgruntled workforce. Possibly losing some of the most quality staff members. I am a third generation contractor in Sisters Oregon. In that time period the CCB has moved more of the burden of the duties on to the contractor. Why should it cost more to do less. Using the argument that there are way more contractors than before only cements the argument against raising the fees. The growing list of contractors paying the current cost only helps to maintain financial stability. More contractors does not match up with raising the fee. The list of contractors that are planning on retiring in the next year is large. How can the industry expect these new up and coming, mostly young with a very small budget to survive. The industry desperately needs these younger contractors to start backfilling the contractors that are retiring. The costs involved with starting a construction company are very high and this 23% increase is just another straw on the camel's back. The board has an opportunity to leave this alone, I hope they take it. Thanks for the time Daryl Tewalt
Dave McNeel, Business/Organization: Clackamas Electrical Systems Inc	Oppose	There is no fee or tax that the Oregon State government doesn't like. It might just be the right time to leave this state. If enough of us contractors leave the state Tina Kotec will be hard pressed to build those 30,000 dwellings per year that no one can afford to buy. Don't worry though, Tina Kotec will have the State buy them and GIVE them to the homeless free of charge. Sounds like Communism to me. Regards, Dave McNeel CCB 59852 Response to my email confirming receipt: Thanks for acknowledging my email. I know it does no good. Maybe the CCB Board can bring their January PGE bill with them when they meet to fully understand what Oregon Contractors are up against.
Dave Perrine, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I have had an Oregon Contractors license for 31 years. The one time I ask for your help, I had a customer that bailed on a contract for an outbuilding. I called the CCB and you told me to pound dirt. All the CCB does is raise the cost of building. Your enforcement does nothing for us. We are not competing with the unlicensed. Absolutely do not raise contractors fees!!! Make the people that you help pay your fees!!
David Micheal, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Perhaps now is a good time to cut back on personnel? Thank you

Dennis Williams, Business/Organization: Dennis Williams LLC	Oppose	Why increase prices at this horrible time for Oregon? More money for CCB to treat Contractors like we're all crooked. We are definitely a communists state. Just the way I see it!
Devin Richman, Business/Organization: Axe and Hammer LLC	Oppose	<p>The ccb does next to nothing to prevent non licensed contractors from competing on the bottom end. You guys do absolutely nothing for the little guys except take our money.</p> <p>You suits that don't actually build and work for a living don't care that we in oregon already work slave hrs and pay 40 in state and fed tax. Prices are through the roof and labor rates are crazy just in order to pay our bills.</p> <p>You people are the problem with oregon and actually all Democrat states. State and govt involvement and taxes are bleeding the middle class workers dry.</p> <p>I'll keep raising my prices and things will keep getting becoming unaffordable for the average person to maintain their homes. The ccb and the state of oregon couldn't care less.</p> <p>Always the roll of those in positions of power to ask for more and do less. The ccb is proof of that.</p> <p>Second Email: I am a contractor here in oregon and have no idea what the ccb has ever done for me except waste my time and take my money. All while I see unlicensed contractors working almost every week. Nobody uses your snitch lines because everyone would prefer cheaper labor costs than report a guy for working hard.</p> <p>I have to charge 80/hr as is and am considering raising rates. All because 40% of my income goes right back to taxes, fees, license, bond, insurance etc. I don't even do any large contracts. Just handyman type things.</p> <p>Why does this state insist on inflating all costs to unaffordable proportions?</p>
DJ Wagner, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	This is crap! It is hard enough to make ends meet as it is with all the fees and high insurance rates! You are just going to make struggling contractors not renew their license and work under the table so in the long run your deficit will increase!
Dmitry Bezzubets, Business/Organization: North Star Flooring	Oppose	Why are you raising the prices EVERYWHERE? we are just trying to survive out here!
Don Lewis, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	What a joke all the time i have been a contractor the ccb has done nothing for me other then raise the fees. Start working on how to bring down the cost instead of raising them.I have been a contactor for Overr 20 years and it has not changed
Don McDowell, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Can't even afford 325 400 is price gouging, people can't afford our prices anymore hourly rate was 86 know it's 200 closing hood river electrical down, work and money is drying up

Don Williams, Business/Organization: Eden Excavation	Oppose	(two emails) 1) My name is Donald Williams I own Eden Excavation CCB:212258 . The fee we pay now is already enough for what we receive from CCB ((we have no advocacy from board (so I am against a \$75 increase and yes things have gotten more expensive ((For us to (Fuel (materials , insurance, and now your making it even harder to keep our license up and going every 2 years (I agree that \$375 isn't a lot for 2 years but like u say everything has gone up ((this Won't affect larger contractors but it will definitely have an impact on those of us who are sole proprietors (just another higher bill (((this hurts the smaller contractors (((.That's my view .sincerely Donald Williams Eden Excavation CCB:212358 541-658-9359 2) I also wanted to ad we also have to pay our insurance and bond renewals at time of license renewal to CCB so this increase will hurt the smaller contractors like my self (((. Sincerely Donald Williams .
Doug Vandeborn, Business/Organization: Bend Home Inspections LLC #196602	Oppose	I would request that the fee does not increase, as it is certainly high enough as is. Doug
Forest Baer, Business/Organization: Forest Baer Customs LLC	Oppose	As a small contracting business owner, I strongly oppose the proposed increase in fees. Many small contractors can barely make ends meet, and increased fees will only make their situation worse. The cost will be passed on to the customers, which makes getting smaller jobs that much harder. Between existing fees, taxes and regulations, it is hard enough for small contractors to operate, and a line must be drawn.
Greg Dresher, Business/Organization: Cascadia Construction and Remodeling	Oppose	I'd like to provide my input on the proposed CCB fee increase. I oppose the proposed fee increase. The costs to run my construction business have increased incongruently with the costs I am able to charge our clients. Running a growing and a profitable business has become nearly unsustainable and incurring additional costs at this point is completely unacceptable and unreasonable.
Greg Miller, Business/Organization: Greg Miller Construction 110411	Oppose	Hello and this email is in regards to fee increases at the CCB. As a close to retiring licensed Contractor I feel that this increase may overload many contractors like me as costs have risen many customers have pulled back in a hold pattern until prices come down. Therefore the Contractors will receive the burden until if ,at all ,costs return to a more managable state. I believe it puts an unnecessary burden on their finances as well as an extra strain during hard times. It would be better to enact the increase if still found necessary during better economic times. My two cents worth and hope it helps someone.
Ian F, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	This price increase couldn't be deferred for a better time? The economy is terrible and many, including myself are barely working as it is. Furthermore, if I'm paying more I should be getting more. I also believe the entire process of getting a Ccb license needs overhauled. As it is, it seems as though these "Ccb licensing" companies are in cahoots with the CCB. As if the CCB is a facilitator for them. This strikes me as a conflict of interest, as the organization requiring my licensing is also advertising for them. I've not had one positive experience with the CCB, from the start. And now this organization (which has no governmental oversight), is demanding more money, with no repairs to their structure.
Ion Paskar, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	We're already squeezed tight with bills it's going to be financially difficult for us to keep the business going without being late on payments or increases. Everything got so expensive this is not necessary for small businesses. On top of everything else that's increased in price.
Jared Piercy, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I struggle with this. I am a licensed contractor and I have needed the assistance of the CCB a couple of times. They have been of no help and after my interactions with them, it has become clear that they are nothing more than another form of tax collection. In the eyes of the CCB, everyone that does anything should be licensed through them. I needed assistance with a contractor that did not pay me and this contractor completely blew off the CCB and is operating business as usual. They are supposed to be there to help protect me and the consumer, and they do/have done neither. I suggest a counter offer instead of increasing the fee to be part of the CCB, to decreasing the amount we pay based on the level of support we get. In my case that would a \$0 renewal fee, perhaps a refund is in order. If you take the amount the licensed contractor stuck me for, I should be fee free for the next 25 years or so.

Jason Behm, Business/Organization: Behm Construction	Oppose	<p>To whom this may concern, When is more enough? What is happening here with fee increases? Is the board aware that the costs are staggering to operate as a sole-proprietor / contractor in Oregon...Your fees are the same as California, How can one grasp this concept when Oregons GDP is a fraction of California's... You guys are snuffing out the middle class, I guess that the new narrative here too! Are there going to be any assistance programs offered for these increases?</p>
Jennifer Burbridge, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>I no longer have a business doing construction but I do still get emails from you. I do NOT think you should increase the fee, and certainly not by such a high amount. We, people in Oregon, are struggling with everything right now. Our taxes are very high, they are raising our insurances and utilities at such alarming rates that it is almost unsustainable. They are proposing adding tolls to the roads we already pay taxes for. There has to be a realization that this is not sustainable. We can't afford to have everything under the sun rise. The inflation is more than enough taxation that this shouldn't even be an option. Please think about the small businesses this will effect.</p> <p>PLEASE STOP CHARGING MORE FOR EVERYTHING!!!!</p>
Jacob F, Business/Organization: BD Mack Inc (?)	Oppose	<p>I'm tired of paying more and more fees to cover oversight that we do not need. Regulations the ccb has that are not abided by by out of state specialty equipment installers make it more apparent how goofy this ccb system is. Taking the madatory classes to maintain our license is a joke, benefiting only perhaps the companies that sell the testing material. I have been licensed since 1999 without complaint or lawsuit. If the ccb needs more money perhaps they should get it from donations.</p>
Joe Young, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>I feel that the CCB increase, if approved, needs to do more to help protect us Contractors. As an example I live and work in SE oregon, Baker County and there are several individuals working in my area- unlicensed- and when I have discussed the benefits of being apart of the CCB it falls upon deaf ears. Also from personal experience when I have reported unlicensed individuals to the CCB nothing changed except for the the backlash. My opinion is the CCB needs to be out in the community more really enforcing and not just waiting for a contractor to call in. Therefore until I see these changes I say NO to increased fees.</p>
Joel B Ladd, Business/Organization: Ladd Costruction LLC #239015	Oppose	<p>My bond amount went up \$5000 this year resulting in over \$200 dollars in increased cost of business, my insurance increased significantly(with no claims), and I'm being taxed at over 40% on my income. I have to be able to live within a shrinking budget, it does not seem like the time for the ccb to add cost to my company.</p>
Joel Parkin, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>Thank you for the update . However , a 23% increase for a "service " that often amounts to a piece of paper that any contractor can purchase and pretend to be qualified is disappointing. The best manner for vetting qualified contractors always has been and always will be through referrals from satisfied customers, nothing more and nothing less.</p>

<p>John Starkovich, Business/Organization: Bull Run Construction</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Greedy bureaucrats always raising taxes and fees. This isn't gonna fix your problem. All it's going to do is put more pressure on the small businesses owners. But who cares about them right, as long as the government gets free money to waist. Just a FYI, the CCB has done nothing for me, other than cost me money. Why don't you use some of your Fines revenue to cover the increased operating costs.</p> <p>Second Email: I am 100% against a fee increase. What am I paying for? I never receive any benefits from the CCB. I got my first fine last year for some BS about lead paint. It cost me \$1000.00. You should try laying off some people if you can't afford to operate under your current budget.</p> <p>What are you actually doing for the working people?</p> <p>You can't tax your way out of overspending. Live within your means like the rest of us.</p> <p>I vote no to increasing the fee.</p>
<p>Jose Valezquez Bustos, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I don't think will be good for increasing contractor licenses price</p>
<p>Keith Southworth, Business/Organization: Homestead Tractor LLC #223662</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>FUCK YOU AND FUCK OREGON!!!!!!</p>

<p>Keller Christensen, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I am disappointed and disgusted by Oregon CCB. A rate increase only adds salt to the wound.</p> <p>1) It took nearly 3months for CCB to process my paperwork (insurance, Bond etc.) after submitting. I asked if they were short handed and backed up - the response was they had plenty of employees and it was the process.</p> <p>2) let's look at our other things that are in place for quality control.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) County state building inspectors B)insurance C) bonding D)word of mouth about contractor <p>Oregon continues to over step and over spend.</p> <p>In Idaho registration is only \$30</p> <p>After taking the class for my license even the instructor thinks it is a joke.</p> <p>The Oregon CCB is criminal. It does not appreciate small businesses and the all the responsibilities that go with paying insurance both business and health, taxes.</p> <p>Another issue is that we are lacking homes. Do you think the answer is to make it harder to build? Put the money and enforcement into inspections.</p> <p>We Do Not Need the Oregon CCB.</p>
<p>Kevin McCart, Business/Organization: Mountain Ridge Painting</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>My vote is No on the proposed increase</p>
<p>Kirk Bennet, Business/Organization: CCB # 226327</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I dont feel the government spends our money efficiently. Like every american you should have to cut costs... not charge more. I say no to the increased fee.</p>
<p>ldwllc1 <ldwllc1@gmail.com>, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>no fee increases life is hard enough as it is</p>
<p>Lee Finlayson, Business/Organization: Lee Finlayson Construction #55003</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>To whom it may concern, I've been a licensed contractor for almost 40 years now in this state.when I started out the fees were 50 bucks for two years. then after the recession, you guys raised it to 325 bucks now you're asking for \$400 and what have I received out of all this money from you guys? nothing!</p> <p>All you are is a bunch of bureaucratic people that need a job that are stealing money out of my pocket. You work for the customer,not the contractor! You guys should be disbanded ,and your money refunded back to the people that work for it.</p> <p>Sincerely, lee finlayson CCB. 55003</p>

Leslie Powell, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>In my personal opinion, I don't see an increase helping the economy in any way. The cost does not reflect anything more than having our information on record. I think that as long as we are maintaining a license in good standards and are computer accessible to the public, there is really no extra cost. I think the cost might increase when it comes to violations and should be the incentive to hold good boundaries.</p> <p>Along with the cost of materials and our labor cost, due to the lack of willing workers, why should we pay more? We don't work with the cost of inflation according to government standards, at least not the honorable & honest(realistic) contractors/ laborers.</p> <p>Without affordability to the public to repair or add to their assets, We're out of jobs!</p> <p>The increase needs to stop somewhere without creating a depression, Help us do that !!!</p> <p>Thanks Leslie</p>
Lonnie Downs, Business/Organization: D Construction	Oppose	<p>Why not increase ccb fees has no effect on you. Do you realize the country will not run with out construction. But you people don't care your already on the gravy train.</p>
Luis Valezquez, Business/Organization: Jose Luis Valezquez Construction #181687	Oppose	<p>I don't think will be good for us pay more for contractor licenses when we don't have any support and benefits</p> <p>Protection it's for owners so you should charges them any amount for this protection</p>
Marco Canchola, Business/Organization: Premier LLC	Oppose	<p>The proposed fee should be added only to contractors with multiple employees and certain income criteria (let's say the contractors that earn more than \$750,000?)</p> <p>It's already difficult for small business to comply with all the requirements implemented. This proposed extra cost on top of all the inflation will take a lot of small contractors out of business and would only benefit the big and established contractors. The consumers would have less contractor options and pay more for contracted services.</p>
Mari Campuzano, Business/Organization: Dirt Masters LLC	Oppose	<p>I disagree with a \$75 fee increase for the CCB. This is an exorbitant amount as the past few years have been a challenge to stay in business. Small contractors who make up the majority of Oregon CCB holders are mostly small business owners. We simply cannot take another hit. Please considers my words as my testimony and do not increase Oregon CCB fees.</p> <p>Warm Regards,</p>
Marion Scheel, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>Are you kidding, with the present economy is getting worse everyday, and you want hard working tradesman contractors to pay more... you have a guaranteed salary, with benefits and an amazing retirement, plus you get cost of living increases.. no fee increases for contractors who are already licensed.</p>
Mark Baldwin, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>I am a contractor on the north Oregon coast and have been licensed for nearly 24 years.</p> <p>I pay more in taxes each year. There are more requirements each year. Unlicensed contactors go unpunished every day here.</p> <p>What am I getting for the additional fees ?? I don't get any support now, but you want more money ??</p> <p>I am against another TAX increase !</p>

<p>Michael Gard, Business/Organization: Bear Creek Painting</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Ahhh,you're the lucky one that gets to be the whippin boy/girl/ whatever.....for the State . Let me start off with "this is BULLSHIT" People in almost all the state business offices were off , or working out of their homes for at least a year, & I can imagine ,not doing mucho,..... comparatively to what they'd usually have to do ,if ACTUALLY working in the office.....How many more new people did you hire in your CLSB division to justify an increase in your already TO HIGH LICENSE FEES??. How many UNLICENSED " hoopeddoo wanna be contractors" did your License investigators cite for working without a license ,bond or , business liability insurance??. IF, they did cite any, how many PAID, OR SHOWED UP FOR A HEARING??. With the increase of ILEAGLE INVADERS ,!!?? coming into this state for a FREE RIDE , FOOD , FREE MONEY, ,BENIFITS ,& MEDICAL ETC. TAKING JOBS AWAY FROM TRUE HARD WORKING BUSINESSES,& Their employees, THAT PAY THE TAXES FOR YOUR INCOME, & TO AFFORD YOU A JOB. If anything, prices should be LOWER TO US, ESPECIALLY DURING HARD TIMES. TRY DUMPING some of the NON PRODUCTIVE , RUDE ,ARROGANT PEOPLE I've dealt with in your office over the last 30 YEARS I'VE PAID LICENSE FEES ,STATE ,& FEDERAL INCOME TAXES, (infact Oregon in the top 5 HIGHEST STATE Income TAXES in the entire country) Tell your CLOWNS IN Management, to / my ass, if they want to increase your OVER PRICED CIRCUS FEE!!?? I'M SICK OF IT, & DONE ACCEPTING PRICE GOUGHING AS ROUTINE BUSINESS....they're putting me in no other positions,(but bent over) except to operate illegally , like the rest of the border crossers, not to mention, ,PUTTING US OUT OF BUSINESS. INSURANCE PROVIDERS, BOND INCREASES, MATERIAL'S ALL INCREASED NOW..... TIGHTEN YOUR OWN DAMN BELTS, FOR A CHANGE..& DO WITHOUT FOR A CHANGE, and let us do our jobs & Survive. As this conversation started, so will it end. THIS IS BULLSHIT !!??BETTER THINK IT THRU. Please FORWARD this,to be sure the CLOWN, THATS PROPOSING THIS INCREASE understands what they're doing to the residents, & businesses of this GREAT STATE. FIRE THE " POS" MORON GOVERNOR ,& LEGISLATORS WHILE YOU'RE AT IT!!??HOPE TO SEE THEM IN GITMO. for their part,in CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY / GENOCIDE, alongside the rest of the tyrannical government..... NOTHING CAN STOP WHAT IS COMING:::Be on the right side of this,....THE AMERICAN PEOPLE!!!!</p>
<p>Mike Dillon, Business/Organization: Mike Dillon Electric</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Yes this is Mike Dillon with Mike Dillon Electric. I can understand the cost is gone up since I keep getting them passed along from you. I don't feel I need to pay more money. I don't feel like you guys do the job I pay you to do now why would I give you more money to do less. Find somewhere else to cut the fat out and leave the fee alone. As far as I can tell, you guys sit in your office and don't do anything, why should I pay more for that? I can't get you out of the office to go out and inspect, let alone track somebody down on the internet using Craigslist to scam people . Well I'm tired of paying for nothing, find someplace else to get the money from.</p>

Morgan Soller, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	The government, federal and local already tax the small business man so hard. On top of that the continuing education that is mandated is also bogus. I don't need tips on marketing and if I wanted to take a marketing class I would go to the local community college, not a CCB authorized course that is a joke. Raising license fees only makes more sense to conceal wages from the ones who keep taking from hard working people trying to make a living. The system is built on sweat of the tradesman but the sponges of government are the fungus that ruin it.
Nathan Wilcox, Business/Organization: Wilcona Construction LLC	Oppose	This is an attack on free enterprise. This needs to stop. There is nothing free or constitutional about the continued increase in cost to simply be qualified to conduct business in a system that touts free enterprise. This is not free enterprise. When does the taxation end. Second Email: This is not ok. Free enterprise is being attacked at its core. I understand a need for standardization but fees connected to just conducting business is against the Constitution and acts as taxation without representation as most of these things are already covered in a tax law in one place or another.
Natosha Rollins, Business/Organization: Trees Company LLC	Oppose	This imposed extra contractors fee could not come at a worst time with the economy the way it is. I feel like oregon is trying to get rid of contractors. This is the worst idea ever. I have three jobs and three different licenses through oregon and this hurts!!
Nick Emerson, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Shannon, to have an entity that provides consumer confidence in contractor work is valuable but with the increase in the number of contractors state wide its hard to imagine that an increase is warranted. Economies of scale should be applied with your cost not matching your increase revenue.
Noah Cervantes, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I am I am opposed to a fee, increase for contractors in the state of Oregon. Small businesses are struggling to meet all the different obligations just to run a business. The board should work with the legislature to find money through new housing developments maybe additional fees, and SDC's that help support the CCB, rather than lay it on small businesses. Absolutely opposed to the license fee increase proposal for Oregon contractors.
Patricia Maier, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Fees are taxes and affect the bottom line of businesses in this business attitude where employees are difficult to find.
Randy Cranston, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	No absolutely not Way too many fees and taxes in Oregon. If this continues I will be moving all my companies to a red state.

Rick McWhorter, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>Shannon - I just read your proposal for the increase in license fee and it sure doesn't seem logical or fair. Just so I understand the purpose of the CCB. This board performs the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the CCB is the police force to punish hardworking contractors who do not have all their paperwork filled out properly. - the CCB searches out construction sites to punish small businesses owners who are not following the rules set by the CCB. Even if the contractor is a good contractor but sidesteps one minor rule which didn't hurt the consumer, he/she still gets punished. - the CCB performs dispute resolution, however, if there is a dispute the CCB is rarely supportive of the contractor. - the CCB enforces education, however you make the education mandatory which costs us contractors even more money. <p>So as you can see, the CCB does not support or benefit us contractors, yet we have to pay for the CCB. So raising our fees is a very hard pill to swallow plus this fee is a big hit to our bottom line. Raising the fee only discourages new small business folks to not obtain a license because it's too expensive and they already have massive startup costs.</p> <p>From my understanding, the issue is that the consumer needs to be protected from bad contractors. So why don't you develop a law firm that specifically benefits consumers who have been wronged by contractors. Also, this law firm would help and support contractors who have been wrongfully accused.</p> <p>I agree that contractors should be licensed and bonded but I think it's very wrong to mandate education. Instead why don't you make education more incentivized. For instance if you take 20 hours of education your license is discounted 10% or your license is effective for 3 years instead of 2. Also, education should be more educational for contractors. For instance, take 20 hours on how to properly build a stud wall. Or 40 hours on proper techniques on how to Sheetrock. Or classes on basic electricity. All the current education courses are very boring and not practical for daily use as a contractor.</p> <p>So to summarize, the current CCB does not benefit the contractor yet we have to pay for it. I feel a license and bond should be required but don't make education a mandatory requirement to achieve the license. Set up a law firm that is specifically designed to help consumers and contractors to resolve disputes. Your revenue would be much higher as a law firm instead of a government regulatory agency.</p> <p>Anyway, I'd love to assist with the CCB so if there is anything I can do to help please let me know.</p>
Rodney Cummins, Business/Organization: Cummins Construction	Oppose	To whom it may concern: I am against fee increase! Everytime we turn around there is an increase in fees, insurance , CE... People are struggling to stay afloat , this has got to stop!

<p>Rolf Herstad, Business/Organization: EZ Systems #125004</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I'm a specialty contractor engaged in custom home stairwork and finish carpentry. I do Big work and I have the reputation to prove it. MY ccb # is 125044.</p> <p>Why should I have to take continuing education? Have I ever had even a glint of a complaint? No. I have never been denied payment or involved in a dispute. My reputation is beyond reproach. I have never had a code violation .</p> <p>Increasing the license fees is unfair at this time. You can't tell me the state of Oregon is hurting for cash.</p> <p>I'm 69 years old and I can still keep up with anyone in my trade. I'm really tired of this state gouging me at every turn and then wasting the money.</p> <p>I've had enough of the heavy handed increases by the state and all insurance companies people are not going to be able to LIVE I don't get a pension just Social security. Why do I get a skimpy increase and every one who works for the state gets bucu retirement packages IN ADDITION to social security!</p> <p>Truthfully, a weary and sickened citizen. Oh, how about all the new Millionaires generated by "Continuing education" off my back!!!</p> <p>Rolf Herstad CCB 125044</p>
<p>Ron Blaylock, Business/Organization: R. S. Blaylock Building Co.</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Did you guys forget why we left England? Taxation without representation.</p> <p>The whole CCB continuing education is a crock. Offering classes PEOPLE can just take over and over and for what, to generate funds to justify CCB existence? One of the reasons why you're in an office, sitting on a chair paid for by the taxpayers is because people hire contractors to build homes and contractors who risk building on speculation.</p> <p>I live in Bend, Oregon. They didn't even have a permit process until 1976. You don't see any houses falling down built here before that. As a matter of fact, those houses built back in the day here are better built than most of the new track style homes your employer loves.</p> <p>Emphatic " NEGATIVE! " to raising CCB CONTINUING EDUCATION FEES!!!</p>
<p>Ross Harris, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>You trying to drive people outta business</p>

<p>Scott Smallwood, Business/Organization: SSBC LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>My name is Scott Smallwood, and I am (now) a small contractor.</p> <p>I understand the reasoning for the license fee increase. However, I also believe it to be a bit unfair. As a sole contractor that also experiences some physical disability, it is difficult enough as it is to maintain something that resembles a profit, on top of increasing costs to insurance, bonds, continuing education, and related.</p> <p>I believe there is a disparity between the larger contracting companies and individuals like myself. I would ask if the Board would consider licensing cost/fee based on the size, as well. Meaning, large contracting firms with employees and large scopes of work paying a higher registration fee. Entities/contractors doing multimillion dollar housing and other construction projects would be less affected by a 2-year increase of say, \$150 while sole proprietors and specialty contractors such as myself would be better able to "absorb", say, a \$25 or \$50 increase.</p> <p>I appreciate your time in reviewing my input.</p>
<p>Senator Daniel Bonham, Business/Organization: Oregon Senate</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Happy to comment now – at a time when we aren't building enough houses, the cost of housing is through the roof, we don't have enough contractors to do the work that needs to be done, we are over taxing and over regulating this industry... to have the agency believe it's a good time for a fee increase is appalling.</p>
<p>Stacie Crow, Business/Organization: Sambar Construction</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>As a small business owner it has become increasingly difficult to remain a small business, fees are increased in every aspect of work. Instead of increasing our fees why not look at how you could decrease costs. I am a woman owned business and its as if the fees just wont let up. Its a basic renewal which we are also required by you to pay for classes to keep CCB up to date. That will be a total of about 700.00. Which Im sure those fees also will be increased. Can we get a break?</p>
<p>Stephen Farish, Business/Organization: Bayview Finish and Construction #91870</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Fuck no.</p> <p>You well fed maggots should be lowering your fees and trimming back your bloated budget.</p> <p>It's hard enough making a living at this business without you parasites always sticking your hands in our pockets.</p> <p>In case you don't get my/our drift... NO MORE FEES.</p> <p>Response to my email confirming receipt: Please frame mine in poster size and hang it on the wall for all to see.</p>
<p>Tim Schlabach, Business/Organization: BA&S International LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>In case you haven't noticed, construction in Oregon is in a depression. We are barely paying our bills. Every dollar counts and we cannot afford an increase. Delay it until our economy better reflects industry health.</p>
<p>Todd Nelson, Business/Organization: True North Construction LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>As a Contractor and small business owner we are faced with constant cost increases, sometimes it feels as though we are in a daily battle just to stay in business. While this increase seems fairly minor by itself, if you pile on all the increases a small business is faced with, it gets pretty staggering, ie: Insurances, licenses, bonds, plan room fees, payroll, labor rates, mandatory sick leave, workers comp, shop, office, vehicles, utilities and I can keep going!</p> <p>I understand it is easy to pass these increases on to the end user as overhead or markup but at what point does all of this start affecting the entire economy. As the cost of everything keeps increasing and we keep having to pass on those increases the end user is going to scrap all projects and in turn crash the market. This probably seems dramatic for a \$75.00 increase but I feel this is where we are heading as a Nation.</p> <p>I would strongly implore the CCB to reconsider all cost increases at this time.</p>

Tom Frantz, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	CCB IS OVERLADEN WITH TOP-HEAVY dorks, like all schools and all politicians—it is a self-feeding Godzilla that does nothing for the little guy. Spent 30 years paying into and received ZERO back.
Tom Soule , Business/Organization: CCB# 230368	Oppose	At 70 years old and only working 10-12 hours a week I can barely afford the current fee of \$325 now! It seems like the fees should be based on gross income and/or have a senior rate. Why should I pay the same fee making \$30k/year as someone who is working full time and making \$200k/year. The fee increase of \$400 will force me to retire early!
Tony Giesbrecht Bridgeport, Business/Organization: Bridgeport Painting	Oppose	<p>The fees are already high. Oregon is lacking in enforcing basic criminal laws. I think a fee increase for law abiding contractor citizens is absurd. Homelessness, drug addiction and rampant violence is everywhere. Why would any contractor who contributes to Oregon's tax base be faced with paying more money to a relatively irrelevant enforcement of construction activities. In my opinion, it's a misdirection of taxes towards a minor problem relative to overall state problems. How about increasing contractor fees by \$25 and directly funding law enforcement instead?</p> <p>Second Email: Hi. Any fee increase will further cause inflation in Oregon. I'm against it. Thanks. Tony Giesbrecht, Bridgeport Painting</p>
Troy Ringer, Business/Organization: Loud & Clear A/V Systems LLC	Oppose	<p>As a government agency, there first needs to be true accountability by the people of this state over your actions. All things to do with government spending should be placed in the hands of the people. It is ridiculous that the fees have already reached \$325 for anyone wishing to become a contractor and every 2 years no less.</p> <p>As a regulatory arm of the government, with no true benefit to a contractor, your bureaucracy only increases the expense and difficulty of those trying to make a living. We do not exist to pay your wages and retirement. People can be held accountable through the established legal system without the need for a contractor's board, which again, has no true benefit for us. Cutbacks and less involvement by this branch of government should be encouraged by all contractors.</p> <p>Being a small business owner, I must be an optimist every day. My optimism is tested by agencies that are not able to be held accountable by the people, other than through open comments, which do not have to be taken into account, for this decision or any other. So, I challenge you to put yourself in our shoes and make the hard decisions that we do every day. Choose to make cutbacks and reduce your reach, make due with what you have and put your employees to the test.</p> <p>We don't have the luxury of just increasing our fees without reducing our clientele. Our clients can choose to use another contractor that costs less, but we are required to use your services. Businesses often have to be creative and deal with less income in order to make things work. I did not pay myself a wage the entire first year I was in business and the year after that it was barely enough to survive, while working more hours than a full-time employee would.</p> <p>In closing, I appreciate that you are taking the time to listen to these comments and truly hope that you make the tough decision to not increase the fees. Think of the expenses required of a small business owner when deciding, especially those caused and/or created by your agency. Those would not only be your fees, but the recently increased Bonds and then also insurance, which is higher because it is required.</p>
Unknown , Business/Organization: Hampton Tile and Grout Restoration LLC	Oppose	I think an increase is not a good idea. Most members st the contractors board are very rude to the contractors and do not do anything to help the contractors.

Unkown, Business/Organization: Levis Dirt Works	Oppose	No fee increases it's expensive enough although if you would extend the license to four years I think 400 would be fine. There is no point in having a contractor renew their license every two years it just creates paperwork and is a waste of resources.
Walt Watson, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>We the people do not need your false information regards to raising service fee. I am glad that one day, called Gods day when all evil will be held accountable. Glad I stand for Jesus, I recommend that you get to know God, believe he sent his son Christ who died for us all. Sorry your fights against God if you do. Bureaucratic system, what a nightmare for the common man. It works for the few (rich) and not the humble people.</p> <p>Will you people Leave fees alone. Walt Watson</p>
William Daun, Business/Organization: Willamette Hardwood Floors Inc	Oppose	<p>Shannon,</p> <p>We all know beyond a shadow of a doubt, that our feedback will make absolutely no difference in this increase. And you pretending that our (your employer's) opinion will make any difference is insulting. You already know that business owners are struggling more than ever. Increase in fuel costs, insurance, new tax's , material costs, the impact of Covid, that still affects us today. You are just another Government entity that supposedly work for us (Ya right). Every one of us builders absolutely look at the CCB as "The Great Satan." You take away from legit builders, you build nothing, you create nothing and work for yourselves and your PERS accounts. You fine legitimate business owners for whatever petty thing you can think up or make up. You will hand anyone a license to who can pass the tests and hands you the money; regardless of being here in this country legally or not. How do you think that effects legal contractors, their family's And the amount of money they can charge compared to illegal companies? You are part of the problem, not the solution. Exactly why do I need to "renew" my license? Did something huge change in my skills and knowledge? What do I get in exchange for paying you extortion money Every other year? Not to mention "continuing education" , what a waste and joke. Put this increase to a vote of your customers, Ya right, never happen. Do all of us a favor, quit offering "free" classes and handouts that only very few contractors benefit from. Hey here is an idea; charge the contractors that want that benefit And stay out of our pockets. Thanks for pretending you and the CCB give a damn about our business's.</p> <p>Regards William Daun</p>

William Griffith, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>You want to increase rates by 25%. This is ridiculous. How about cutting staff or being more efficient ? TWENTY FIVE PERCENT !!!! I dont get a TWENTY FIVE PERCENT increase. What do you do to deserve ANY increase ?</p> <p>This is the final straw from you vultures in Salem. We plan on leaving this tax/fee infested cesspool state ASAP.. Perhaps a paycut is in order for state employees is in order. You're under worked and overpaid !!!!</p> <p>Follow-up after I emailed him to thank him for his comments: Do more with less. Just like the rest of us in the real world do. You wont fine one small business contractor that thinks this is a good idea which means the state will do it because its a bad idea. Oregon ranks #1 in bad ideas.</p> <p>I think Oregon contractors license numbers is up to around 250,000. I'm sure not all are active so lets say there are 200,000. This doesn't include Landscape Contractors. I could be wrong but I would guess they're going to get hit too. So for sake of argument lets say 200,000 active licenses are here. If my math is correct it means $\\$75 \times 200,000 = \\$15,000,000.00$!!!!! Why in the heck does the CCB need \$15,000,000 more from hard working taxpayers ???? This is government gone mad ! I will be contacting the media to try and get this out there.</p>
Zane Crawford, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>I don't agree with a fee increase. It's already too high.</p> <p>Some of us are just starting out and need that \$75 to put back into our businesses.</p>
Brendon Lazar, Business/Organization: BVL Construction	Oppose	<p>I'm sorry but I don't think the fees should increase. This will actually cause more people to refuse to get licensed as if there isn't enough already and as if the fee isn't high enough already.</p> <p>Seriously? I'm licensed in Washington as well, do you know how much the fee is there? It's \$124.70 annually which is only \$250 for 2 years.</p> <p>How do you guys justify being double the price of Washington? Washington has L&I offices throughout the state, if I need something done ASAP.</p>
Vaughn Harris, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>I think it's raising the fees are a bad idea. I understand the cost of things going up. Painters honestly shouldn't even need a contractors license I feel a yearly permit should be acceptable. As a painter in southern oregon our cost for materials makes it hard a small business to be successful as it is. Most of us are trying to make a living and with cost of material for us now our license goes up? We have unlicensed people out and underbidding us on jobs as it is. Raising our fees is gonna hurt a lot of small businesses that struggle as it is.</p>
Michael Bennett, Business/Organization: Old Town Roofing and Const	Oppose	<p>Here are my 2 cents about a price increase. Almost 25% increase is out of line I do not get a 25% increase for my work. If everyone keeps raises their prices it will put the small companies out of business. My insurance has gone up over \$1000.00, my materials have gone up 10-20 % , my job prospects are drying up, and the cost of food, gas, etc... If my house payment went up 25%, I would have to get another job just to make ends meet. oh, wait I just did get another job silly me. If I raised my rates 25%, I would not get any work.</p> <p>So long story short if you need to raise your prices do it at a more reasonable rate like 5-7% or more people will work un licensed or move out of Oregon.</p> <p>Thanks for you time</p>
dm222396@gmail.com, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>The fee is already way too high</p>

John Cummings, Business/Organization: CCB #28190	Oppose	This fee increase is nothing more than a tax and as a tax should be voted on by Oregon tax payers and/or contractors. In over 40 years of being licensed, I personally never saw a benefit of being licensed as I always gave my clients the quality and fair pricing for my work whether the project was bid or hourly. I have, unfortunately, had the experience to do follow up work behind people claiming to be contractors whose work was shoddy at best or fraudulent at worst. The few times I have been asked by clients of such work to testify on their behalf to a Builder's Board investigator the CCB investigator always sided with the contractor who did the work. They almost always claimed "grey areas" in the building codes. In my 40+ years as a contractor I have never had a claim filed against me with the CCB. I am afraid that your fee increase will force many small exempt contractors to leave their businesses which are probably just paying them just enough to stay in business. I hope that the CCB can come up with a different business model to cover their increasing costs such as having the legislature provide more funding. I retired in January of last year due to the increased costs of staying in business such as my liability insurance, bond requirements, etc. and because my income was decreasing as I was not taking on new clients. I hope this will give you and the folks at the CCB enough input from someone who has worked as a licensed contractor in Oregon since 1979.
Mark Duncan, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	We already pay enough as is! We are the ones out here actually working and trying to make a difference Insurance Bond Etc..... Enough already
Aaron Boitz, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Can I get a public Records request on CCB cost increase to the CCB? And annual Revenue in, and Accounts Payable and Receivable. I think the revenue coming in in 2023 is much greater than it was in 2010, and accounts payable has not increased all that much, I am opposed to the increase for lic fee's. I can't think of one time the CCB has been beneficial to my CO, NOTE: By definition A fee is for something you receive services, or goods. a TAX is something you pay for no services or goods for. Is this a tax or a Fee?, if it is a fee! what services do I get for this? please Explain.
Steve Dearborn, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I am a small contractor and already have a hard time making decent profit with the current fees and tax rates. Please consider raising the price on larger operations based the volume of work they do compared to us little guys.
Justin Sloan, Business/Organization: Sloan Land Painting	Oppose	We believe the fee is high enough especially with all other fees the state has mandated for us small businesses .. please keep the renewal fees where they are . Cost of living has increased as we all know. Thanks for giving us the chance to respond
Jonathan Beachella, Business/Organization: Beachella Builders	Oppose	Hi I'd like to state that I'm against the increase in the license fee. I'm a small time contractor doing custom cabinets and woodworking. And shouldn't have to pay more. I could see charging the bigger construction companies more because they're innovating the massive growth in Oregon. It should be sliding scale on my opinion! Thanks for you consideration,
Dan Jossi, Business/Organization: Radiant Properties	Oppose	I am not in favor of this additional rate increase. The small contractors, such as myself, are being hard pressed by inflation and interest rate increases. Every time there is a fee or tax increase contractors have to raise their prices which hurts the consumer, who you are there to benefit.
John Darby, Business/Organization: Darby's Floor Covering	Oppose	i strongly disagree about this increase because we have been hit hard by covid and the economy is bad, the cost of goods are up, and this is just going to create more hardship.

<p>Tevis Dooley III, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I am a VERY semi retired contractor who wants to maintain a license for a very minimal use for the next 2 years. \$400 will be a huge increase for the huge decrease in my earnings. Would there be a middle ground for those of us on our way to next to no projects yearly? Thank you for your time. Tevis Dooley III</p>
<p>Tim Wiley, Business/Organization: Stone Center Inc</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I am opposed to the \$75 fee increase based on the limited information provided. If CCB has held staffing levels and become more efficient while the industry has grown in size there should be more money now than in 2010. The increase in number of annual fees should offset the increase in cost if they have been kept low with existing staff.</p> <p>Based on the numbers provided back in 2010 the CCB was paying an average of \$67k (pay plus cost) per employee. Based on the current staff levels and number of licensee payers the CCB is paying an average of \$103K (pay plus cost) per employee. Based on the current fee rate. With the new fees the average will be \$127K per employee.</p> <p>I would like to see a more detailed breakdown of what the workers are getting paid from top level to lowest level and how this has changed over the last 14 years.</p> <p>While I do understand the need to raise the fee at some level I just think that the \$75 is more than what appears to be needed.</p> <p>Other than to pay our fees each renewal and to provide our CE numbers each year, our company has not contacted the CCB for any other reasons in the last 14 + years. Thank you for adding my comment to the list.</p>

<p>Nathan Pratt, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Our family business was first licensed by the CCB in 1973, and we have been licensed under different names as our family business has grown and changed ownership.</p> <p>The CCB is misguided in both its policies and purpose. The goal of the CCB seems to be consumer protection, but despite the high cost of licensing, the mandated continuing education, and the testing to get a contractors license; the problems with contractors seem to persist.</p> <p>Rather than focusing on the contractors, why doesn't the CCB focus on educating the consumer? Prior to the licensing in this state, consumers did their own homework, asked for references from contractors, and etc. Since the formation of the CCB, consumers seem to think that all licensed contractors are the same and they just go with the cheapest bid. The licensing has lulled the consumer into a false sense of security.</p> <p>Also, regardless of all the information available to contractors and all the required forms that we give clients, they continue to ask how much money they need to provide as a down payment for the work. We continue to tell people that any legitimate contractor has charge accounts that he pays on a monthly basis and should only be paid in draws for work that is completed.</p> <p>The CCB is not doing its job in educating the consumer, and until they do no amount of money you collect is going to have an impact on unlicensed contractors or dishonest contractors. The consumer is probably the driving force behind the unlicensed contractors, the unlicensed contractor is cheaper. Maybe a good solution would be to fine both the unlicensed contractor and the consumer, because they both share the blame equally.</p> <p>Additionally, the licensing test is a joke. There is no actual knowledge of building code or building practice required to get a contractors license and the consumer doesn't know that fact. Unfortunately no amount of testing or continuing education is going to make good contractors, the bad ones will always be there unless the consumer changes.</p> <p>In conclusion, I am against any proposed increase in the cost of licensing.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
<p>George Malos, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>We've been in business since 2004. The CCB has been absolutely useless. Faster and easier to hire an attorney to take care of legal issues not the CCB. There's an influx of unlicensed businesses but the CCB cant seem to find them or do anything about it. So much easier to nit-pick the licensed businesses and fine them instead. Can't fathom why their budget falls short when the rest of us have to figure out how to stay within a budget. Cost for businesses have skyrocketed. Poor management on the CCBs behalf? Of course it's easy to say the CCB needs more money when it's not coming out of their own pocket. Please stop the fees!! Oregon has an endless list of departments that all expect money. NO TO INCREASED FEES</p>
<p>Vince Vincerj, Business/Organization: symbiotik development llc</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>With the current situation of having a demokkrat as governor it would be best to lower the fees since inflation is already killing the poor poor poor minorities and trailer trash whites.</p> <p>warm regards, identifying as a black swedish gay woman</p>

Howard Asch, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>While I understand the need for fees to reflect the cost of operations, I am concerned that the proposed fee will be unequally born by smaller contractors.</p> <p>My gross business last year totaled about \$36,000, which included about \$18,000 in materials. the state required license, insurance and bond came to approximately 8% of what was left after materials cost.</p> <p>Another company with millions of gross sales will hardly notice those fees that cost me so much of my profit.</p> <p>It would be nice if a fee structure would take into account the differing ability of a small contractor compared with larger firms. My small operation provides a service desperately needed in my community as larger more prosperous firms will not take the small jobs I my customers need.</p> <p>Instead of raising the cost of doing business, why not raise the fines assessed to those who fail to follow regulations and let the companies CCB is designed to protect the consumer against pay the shortfall to cover your costs..</p>
Terry Sloan, Business/Organization: Cascadia Construction	Oppose	Looks like I'll have to pass another bureaucratic expense on to the customer. No wonder people are going with unlicensed contractors.
Sean O'Neil, Business/Organization: Klobas Oniel Roofing	Oppose	If you increase prices on us licensed contractors, you may want to start responding better to illegal contractor calls. They are making it harder to pay all these fees and still get the job. I say enough
Aaron Fuller, Business/Organization: Fuller Woodcraft	Oppose	My thoughts are that the CCB is a government agency that should reflect the status of the people they support. The industry is currently experiencing high inflation, increased material and labor costs, lack of experienced labor, increased code and requirements to meet codes, higher fuel prices, higher machine and auto prices and uncertain futures. It would seem that a government agency who is in touch with the people it is designed to serve should be finding ways to cut costs and bring some relief rather than increasing costs. \$18mil is beyond plenty to run a small organization like the CCB in a small state like Oregon, especially when many of us are seeing and making major cuts personally.

<p>Richard Iverson, Business/Organization: CCB 79429</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Your statement,</p> <p>The license fee was set at \$325 in 2010. Since 2010, costs have increased significantly and the industry has grown in size. At the same time CCB has held the line on staffing and sought ways to be more efficient with existing staff. The fee paid by contractors has remained at or below the rate established in 2010. The board proposed the increase to ensure the agency will have the resources needed to deliver accountable customer service to the contractors and consumers of Oregon.</p> <p>If the industry has increased in size then the fees collected have increased in size.</p> <p>I agree/disagree with licensing a person to perform work. I have been a licensed contractor for over 30 years in Oregon. But also believe a man/woman has the right to work.</p> <p>But I do not find the CCB as a help to me against consumers. The CCB's main job is to protect the consumer and to enforce licensing.</p> <p>The CCB can attach a bond and get the consumer paid back some or all their money but does not have any power to force the consumer to pay the contractor.</p> <p>I do not agree with the fee increase. My wages are not going up only my cost to operate.</p> <p>I do not see that anyone at the CCB is due a raise in wages with the increased inflation due to the present administration.</p>
<p>Rob Wilder, Business/Organization: Urban Inspections LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Please consider that some of us sole owned and operated home inspectors have just come off/survived our worst year ever and we're completely unsure about the year to come.</p> <p>This may be the difference in my decision to keep my business up and running or finding other work at 65.</p> <p>Hope you're doing well.</p>

<p>Shaun Weston, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I think a fee increase is not a good idea. Businesses are already struggling in this economy and an increase in fees only makes things harder.</p> <p>I think better management of the existing budget is a necessity if you're finding your agency in a deficit.</p> <p>If there are contractors who are for an increase in fees, let them pay the deficits rather than imposing additional bills/fees on all contractors.</p> <p>CCB is a government agency, there is no logical reason why contractors who already pay exorbitant amounts in taxes without seeing any benefits from them also have to pay large fees for this government agency to stay afloat.</p> <p>If CCB wants to sustain its existence they should try asking for more money from the governor, not the contractors. We pay enough as it is.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
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<p>Damon Lehr, Business/Organization: ABC Hearing and Cooling</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>HELP!</p> <p>I am a sole proprietor residing in Sandy Oregon. It's just me, and your fee had NOT been fair to me at all. Now you want to raise the fee?</p> <p>Listen to me, I'm almost out of business, almost out of money, almost out of parts in inventory due to the fact that my customers have higher expenses also and are buying only what is required.</p> <p>IT IS NOT FAIR to be charging me the same high fee as larger companies that are also diversified. I'm just me, everything here is just me, from the phone, to the furnace repairs, to scheduling and securing parts, doing the finances, trying to save for rainy cool summers and warmer winters when money is really scarce.</p> <p>I Propose a graduating scale based on either revenue or number of employees. SOMETHING ELSE! As a single person there is no way I could burden your resources as much as a company with 20 employees and handling 20 times the work with 20 times the customers. NOT FAIR. I'm not alone either, there are many small companies that are struggling to stay alive right now. Not only is this poor timing it's also poor judgement. Will you also raise the FEES again when you loose CCB participants?</p> <p>This is not rocket science. Your system is functional and I appreciate that the CCB exists. However I can't think of 1 bill to pay that is the same fee for everyone when the services rendered are NOT the same for everyone. We are the private sector and extremely diverse, yet YOU charge me the same as a company that might earn 5 million dollars a year. Why?</p> <p>Please VOTE this down and redesign/propose it with smaller less fortunate companies in mind also. Not only is it difficult, but have you thought about the brand new startups that dont have very many customers at all yet? NO YOU HAVE NOT.please. Please!</p> <p>One other request that I might also ask. When a family has done heating for as long as ours has the CCB number shouldn't change. YES classes are necessary and continuing education also. BUT, my grandfather started this compamy in 1945 when furnace service was FREE if you purchased our home heating oil. When my father handed me the company I had to obtain a whole new number from YOU. This is a legacy, the customer is always right and we have taken very little of your time and or resources.</p> <p>Another problem.. my insurance hasn't ever lapsed and yet YOU have bad marks in my account about having it not be updated on time. BIG SHAME on you for that. Once an insurance has been proven validated and no lapse in coverage existed there should NOT be any mention of that FAKE lapse for my customers to read. I'm one person, no secretary and my renewal is OCTOBER during the heart of tune up season. Help us please. I call not fair on 3 accounts. We should be able to change our renewal dates and especially so for seasonal type of work.</p>
<p>Matthew Herman, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>To Whom it May Concern,</p> <p>I Think that the CCB should decrease staffing so that we can decrease all applicable fees and licenses.</p> <p>Very respectfully yours,</p>

Jim Meaney, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	As a sole propriety, Oregon contrator for more than 30 years I am opposed to any and all price increases that cannot be justified as a direct cost of doing business, increased costs for fuel, 2x4's drywall, labor costs even liability insurance to can be justified and accounted for. I agree and fully support a process that requiers education, licencing, and accountability for all professional Oregon contractors and certain reasonable fees. However the services the CCB provides my business do not justify a \$400 fee. I propose that if additional funding is needed, that it comes from the extreamly high permitting fees and associted SDC's.
Mike Moydell, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I was thinking it's ok until the contractor board canceled my license because they they weren't smart enough to look at my bond and know I have had a 25,000 dollar bond for the last 4 years and when my insurance company sent them twice proof of it they... <i>(comment was in the subject line of the email and possible cut off)</i>
Christina LaRoche, Business/Organization: CCB# 234193	Oppose	Hello, Our company has read the request of the ccb to raise the current ccb fee by \$75. Our company and current ccb holder does NOT agree to raise the current fee to hold a two year ccb license. Due to the current recession conditions in the United States, a fee increase is not feasible for us (ccb holders) at this time. We are in an economic down turn and clients are holding back on getting repairs done to their residential and commercial property, due to the exorbitant materials cost. Interest rates are at an all time high, causing considerable financial hardship on all business. Increasing the ccb fee to an already exceedingly expensive fee schedule, overall could cause a huge decline in ccb participation. The cost to hold a ccb plus required insurance & bonds is \$3,500 annually not including other business financial commitment. We do not concur to this increase due tothe above reasons.
Martin Sanders, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	How about this, not only no on increase in fees, how about no more fees! I'm done paying them! I'm going to avoid fees altogether like our illegals do! Good day!
Eric Virtue, Business/Organization: Precision Advertising LLC	Oppose	Congratulations, now it will take about 75 jobs to be able to benefit from a dollar raise. If we can bid and increase our wages by 1 dollar(which is very hard to do for the honest contractors) then we can actually give ourselves a raise. Good job making the honest contractors lives, even harder. The office workers at the ccb need help, dont pull it from the contractors, do the office workers need honest men building them houses? Pretty much no one is exempt from needing a roof over their heads.
Andy Hardwick, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	The current rate for contractor licensing is excessive. Idaho license fee is \$50 per year and they are doing just fine. I cannot comprehend why Oregon needs to spend so much more money to do the same job, especially when there are so many unlicensed people competing (unfairly) with the licensed ones. When I see a meaningful crackdown on unlicensed contractors, including much stiffer penalties, I may reconsider my position.
Unkown, Business/Organization: Popovici Construction	Oppose	hi, i don't agree with increasing fees, we have struggled too with money . Whit rising fees you encourage people to work without licenses

<p>Tony Lintz, Business/Organization: Sandstone Painting</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Contractors are hit the hardest. While paying licencing fees, insurance, bond, workman's compensation, payroll fees, and fees for assumed business names. Other overhead costs include, equipment and vehicle payments, and insurance for these along with continued maintenance costs.</p> <p>And the CCB is saying the number of construction companies has increased considerably. Meaning they are collecting more money now, than ever. But, yet they feel the need to raise rates and make more money? I feel that that is too deter any new comers or any smaller or struggling business to be pushed out. This seems to be a way to promote the bigger companies and push out the little guys just as workman's comp is set up with discounted rates for companies with five employees or more.</p> <p>No, I disagree with rate increases.</p>
<p>Cory Pinkard, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Hello,</p> <p>How does it make sense to try to further extract more money from the notoriously financially hard pressed blue collar tradesmen in this country of neoliberal economic austerity and decimated unions leading to lower wages when you could instead tax the infamously hoarded and illicitly obtained wealth of the greedy plutocracy to make up the difference in your budget, stale, moldering money stagnating our economy from not circulating that they won't even justifiably miss. Go get your funding from these profiteering developers of homogeneously hideous petrochemical yuppie puppy blight condos that tradesmen such as ourselves couldn't afford to live in even if we wanted to. Go get your money from the vulture investors, hedge fund manager parasites, private equity scammers and permanent capital ghouls. The working class shouldn't be penalized monetarily to do as the state requires to earn our income. Go make the pampered sociopaths if soft handed privilege contribute to our communities for once instead of bleeding us dry like the despicable leeches they are.</p>
<p>Bob Tucker, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Just wanted to submit my two cents worth. First of all the CCB and the builders board should never have been implemented in the first place. The free market always regulates and elinates those who are not capable of performing in this type of service work. My opinion is to completely abandon the CCB, and all of its fees.</p>
<p>David Collins, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Dear Shannon and CCB,</p> <p>I have been informed about the proposed fee increase and fail to see any need for it. There are no enhancements or added benefits associated with the adjustment. Also, there are no tangible benefits currently either.</p> <p>As it stands, I discern no understandable rationale behind the fee increase.</p> <p>Therefore, I am opposed to a fee increase as it adds no value to my business or benefits either.</p>
<p>Beth Dewsnap, Business/Organization: B T Construction</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Good day,</p> <p>We are a very small company in rural Oregon, our profit margin is slim. Raising \$75 is going to cut info our bottom line. Just hope this can be lowered a bit.</p> <p>Sincerely Beth Dewsnap B T Construction Inc</p>
<p>Doug Michelson, Business/Organization: Doug Michelson Paint Contracting LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>That increase is too large. With all the new contractors in the state a 10 or \$20 increase should create plenty of revenue for you to run the CCB. Thanks for allowing open comment. Doug Michelson paint contracting llc</p>

Robert Cole , Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	To the CCB: Many local builders have had to quit due to increased land prices and lack of it, as well as ongoing building material price increases, and the competition for land and materials due to huge out of state builders doing endless large scale commercial and residential building here now. These giant companies accounts are also the financially preferred first choice of builder supply stores when it comes to what is available. The stores like the big money contracts. In addition to that, the companies are undercutting local workers by hiring limited skilled production labor. The proposed CCB price would be just one more nail in the coffin of local CCB contractors. I was born here and have watched it all.
Jeff Jasiorkowski, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Please dont raise the rate, its already hard enough to get through on the phone and talk to anyone, and you dont allow payments or CEU's to be sent by email etc..... and we had a tough couple of year s with the interest rate nightmare. Jeff
Kyle Finnerty, Business/Organization: Grizzly Construction LLC	Oppose	To whom it may concern, I think with the price of everything going up in the state of Oregon; adding another \$75 to our fees as small business contractors is wrong. Everyone is trying to make a living but we cannot continue raising the prices of everything just because someone that sits at a desk all day wants more money. Small businesses are already taxed to no end, the way that the system is set up is already an incentive to not work for yourself. I do NOT want a \$75 increase to my fees. Kyle Finnerty
Roy Gilmore, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	I am not for this; It hurts the small businesses. You folks need to be more efficient the Funes you now Thank you

<p>Nathan Goodloe, Business/Organization: Valiant Construction LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The 13 most western states current renewal fees for a two year period average out to \$265.29 OR \$325 CA \$450 WA \$235.80 AZ \$590 ID \$100 CO \$400 TX \$240 MT \$140 N Dakota \$180 S Dakota \$150 UT \$238 WY \$200 NM \$200</p> <p>OR is currently almost \$60 above the average and there is need to be \$135 above the average? Perhaps someone needs to take a lesson from how these other licensing boards are able to be so much more efficient than ours and implement changes that could even reduce the cost and consequently choose to help the small business owner instead of adding more burden.</p> <p>Throwing money at the problem may seem like a way to fix it - especially when it's someone else's money. Please be wise with our money - not wasteful!</p> <p>Nathan Goodloe Valiant Construction, Inc.</p>
<p>Anthony J. Houck, Business/Organization: CCB 202894</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The proposed rate increase seems an unjustified and sad attempt for a government agency to reap more money from the LAW ABIDING / LEGITIMATE contractors in Oregon. How much more can or should be required of an individual who already pays for the RIGHT to provide service / services, to merely provide a source of income? On top of the new mandatory bond increase and the constant rise in insurance rates, not to mention the increase in materials, fuel, labor, etc., it seems to me that it would only serve to detour, at least some, either new or existing / renewing contractors from acquiring a license / renewal. Counterproductive, when looking at the big picture, in my opinion. Seems there's never reward for being legitimate, just continued gouging, digging, and seemingly penalizing those who already conform.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Anthony J Houck (Dba) CCB #202894</p>

<p>Paul Hutching, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>As a contractor of 40+ years I've been paying the Oregon state my share I try to pay the tax I owe. But I think in the last several years the state has gotten money and hasn't done what needs to be done to make it worth the money we give them they don't enforce the rules they say that you can't be working on the house an improving a house without a state license, if they're going to really say that they need to enforce their rules and Ashland where I live. Nobody wants to admit that they don't want to pay the money. They'd rather pay people under the table and save money and I suspect it's all over the state my first got a license. I had to even an older number right now. My license number is oh , 84064. I think I used to have one that was six something before I got a license they came and found my business card in the local hardware store and figured out I needed to pay. I have a stack of letters that the state of Oregon CCB sent with \$1000 fine because I didn't have a license and I was working without a license And I paid that and got licensed. They're just not enough enforcement people around to encourage the people to do that and if you ask the enforcement people they'll agree they can't get to what's needed and part of it is that locally they don't really want the interference from the state people because it makes it more expensive for everyone else here in this southern Oregon area it's just my opinion you can draw your own conclusions thank you for your time 541-488-1628 Phil hutchings</p>
<p>Nicholas Armstrong, Business/Organization: Ashland Paint and Renovation</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>As a contractor, all of my prices have been increasing, and with the economy going down, and the interest rates going up, people aren't spending money on jobs. Most contractors in Oregon are small businesses. All of our overhead keeps increasing. Please be part of the solution and not part of the problem.</p>

<p>Lisa Wagner, Business/Organization: Emerald Valley Stone and Tile</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>As pricing and inflation continues to go up, it would seem like a logical step to increase the cost of doing business in the State of Oregon. But is it really a natural next step? I feel it is not.</p> <p>Oregon is already a state that has a high cost of doing business and gouges the small business owner financially at every turn. In essence, Oregon is not very friendly to small and family run businesses.</p> <p>For example and my own personal experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Our small family owned and operated business has to renew their business name every year, for a cost of \$100. Why is this? Once we have a name, shouldn't it be good for life, or until we legally shutter the business doors?-Our small and family owned business has to renew their business insurance and bond every year and rates continue to rise. Annually, that cost increased from \$1,150 a year to \$1,600, in one year alone. That amount is staggering for a small start up business.-Our small and family owned business just hired employees for the first time. That adds \$1,600 a year for workman's comp now.-Our small and family owned business also had to sign up for a BIN, (Department of Revenue) and I have no idea what that fee may be going forward. In fact, trying to sign up for and get assistance in that realm was an absolute nightmare and no one was available to answer questions or to ensure that I filled the paperwork out correctly!-Our small and family owned business also must put aside and save enough money to not only pay business and personal taxes, but also must pay the State and the Federal Government for withholding taxes for us, the business owners, and for our employees. This is in addition to: Oregon Partnership Minimum Tax; Oregon Pass Through Entity Tax; Oregon Corporate Excise and Income Tax; Withholding Tax; Unemployment Insurance Tax. As you can see, there is no shortage of taxes we must pay for the luxury of doing business in Oregon State.-Oregon requires that all Contractors must re-license every two years for the first 6 years in business. Why? I feel unless a Contractor has broken the rules or has many infractions, why should a compliant business have to re-license so often?-Oregon also mandates that in order to re-license, a Contractor must take continuing education classes that not only cost money that often goes directly to the State, but often the classes are not even geared towards one's industry or specific to one's trade. In fact, more often than not, the classes offered have nothing to do with one's license and everything to do with collecting yet another fee. If the CCB actually had classes geared towards one's industry, then continuing education would not only make sense, but it would be enjoyable to pursue. This is currently not the case.-Small businesses often foot the bill for other State Funded projects, such as transportation. Here in Lane County, our fee increased from \$800 a year, to \$1,200 a year for our LTD transit system, with no vote, voice or input of our own.
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		<p>longer want to do business in the state of Oregon. The private sector is very important to a State's growth and financial standings. Small businesses already struggle with the different departments that mandate compliance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) City, County and State statutes and codes, 2.) Oregon SOS 3.) Oregon BNI and Department of Revenue 4.) Workman's Comp 5.) Labor and Industry, Unemployment 6.) the Federal Government 7.) Insurance and Bond 8.) DBA's and license name renewal <p>and meeting deadlines year to year to stay in compliance. We constantly worry about wage increases and labor costs, taxation, increased supply costs and supply chain issues, and the ever changing laws and regulations regarding employment and hiring and retaining employees.</p> <p>In essence, we are already being overtaxed and over regulated to death! In a financial environment that we currently find ourselves in, it feels as though the State of Oregon and its elected officials are more interested in raising fees and finding fault, than in supporting small businesses and helping them thrive. If the fee increase were to be used to help small businesses succeed, offered more education and planning surrounding small businesses, free continuing education classes to maintain compliance, and offering small business support from county to county and throughout the State, then maybe a roundtable discussion would be warranted. But in the current financial climate we are facing, that is a hard no from me.</p> <p>I do not agree with the current system we have in place, why would I want to continue to increase funds on a systemically broken facet of government, with no benefit to me, my business or employees, and with the only goal being for Oregon to collect more of my hard earned money?</p> <p>NO on rate increases!</p>
<p>Inna and Vyacheslav Zayets, Business/Organization: Remarkable Floors LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>This is Inna and Vyacheslav Zayets with Remarkable Floors, LLC. We are writing in regards to the proposed CCB fee increase.</p> <p>During these difficult financial times, this increase will be an additional financial burden for us. As of this year the bond requirements have changed increasing our premium, while the requirements do not seem to be necessary for the scope of work we perform.</p> <p>We would appreciate if this significant increase proposition does not go through.</p>
<p>Paul Bartlett, Business/Organization: Bartlett Construction</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Why does government want to hurt small business.</p> <p>Just charge a ridiculous fee to the corporation companies, and you can collect even more money for admin. Doesn't our ridiculously high taxes cover admin for government work anyway?</p>
<p>Michael Piper, Business/Organization: Piper-Caluori Steel Erectors, LLC</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>With the downturn of the economy and lack of available work for the entire country, the CCB should be trimming their budgets like the rest of us. To raise rates at this time would be counterproductive and further exacerbate the situation. Your workload has likely decreased in the last 3 years, not increased. I would ask the board to reconsider the proposal to increase rates on an already over taxed industry.</p>

<p>Bill Hernon, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I am strongly opposed to a fee increase and the current model of operation of the CCB. As a small independent part time contractor, why do I have to pay the same price for my license, insurance and bond as large million dollar corporations? The current structure allows me to be a full time general contractor or a handyman. As a handyman I am allowed to earn enough to live in poverty. What is up with that? I have been in the construction business for over 20 years and tolerated inept state regulation of the industry. I agree the industry needs regulating, but regulation that actually does something to protect the consumer and nurtures useful education in the Trades so contractors actually know how to build, instead of just another TAX. It is like a small craft license or a fishing license, completely useless. As I am about to sit down on my computer and once again take a bunch of mandatory courses to meet my license requirements, I now have to write this comment in hope that the future generation of builders can cut in a roof, frame a set of stairs or build a sunroof out of the proper materials that does not leak. I see incompetent work all the time by long time builders "licensed Contractors" who can't even build a functioning sunroof or flash a wall to roof interface. Can we please have some useful real change?</p>
<p>Bud Carpenter, Business/Organization: CCB #234458</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>As you might imagine I am not in favor of the proposed increase. In all cases of fees(bonds/insurance) and operating expenses (tools, vehicles,shop supplies, utilities, etc.) I'm finding it difficult to continue to pass all this on to clients (especially after the material cost explosion) who are increasingly reconsidering projects due to costs. I appreciate what the CCB does for the industry as a whole but was hoping they could find a more creative solution. Thank you.</p>
<p>Daniel Horner, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Increased rates will only fuel the housing crisis that we are continually reminded of. As a contractor, I get tired of the lecture that we all need to do more for "affordable housing", meanwhile all costs are increasing and the process always getting more cumbersome. I actually agree that housing affordability is at crisis levels. The answer is deregulation, not more regulation. As a liscenced contractor, I have yet to see a real benefit from CCB. There are all manner of unlicensed guys out there, while my interactions with CCB have been accusatory and inconvenient, all in the name of "helping me".</p>
<p>Kevin Moran, Business/Organization: KM Construction</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I believe a fee increase is unwarranted and imposes a further financial burden upon licensees at a time of ever increasing costs of doing business that will only be necessarily transfered to the consumer in the necessity of increased prices to the consumer to cover the increased business overhead costs. I fail to see any net benefit to the Licensees or consumers. Therefore I am against the increased fees.</p>
<p>Mark Schroeder, Business/Organization: Unknown</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>License fees should stay where they are. The prices already being paid doesn't profit the contractors who so hard to make a living as it is.</p>

Jasen Hill, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	<p>So let me get this straight. The CCB wants to know if they should increase the fee for the license because costs have increased significantly since 2010? At this point you can just skip to the bottom for the short version or continue reading the long version.</p> <p>Wow, that's weird; the costs for everything have increased significantly since 2010. The timing is great also because work hasn't been this slow and hard to come by since about then as well. So now that money is so tight and inflation is out of control, y'all think now would be a good time to increase the cost to do business?</p> <p>Here's an idea for ya, why don't you guys at the CCB just work harder so your organization can just make more money then you won't have to increase fees? Oh wait, the CCB doesn't actually produce or provide any services that anyone wants to pay money for. People are forced to pay money for your permission to work and if they don't stiff penalties are issued, even the possibility of jail.</p> <p>Isn't that what extortion is? I'm pretty sure extortion is illegal. Whats that? oh, its ok if its the government's doing it I forgot.</p> <p>I've had a contractors license since about 1991. Ive paid the CCB a lot of money since then. In the 30+ years that I've had a CCB "license" the only benefit has been is that I didn't get massive fines and/or put in jail for simply going to work to make a living.</p> <p>If having a "CCB license" was somehow useful people would want to buy them, you wouldn't have to force and threaten them with fines and charge fees to rationalize your existence.</p> <p>A cordless drill is extremely useful, no one has to be forced to buy one everyone just wants and needs one. Its too bad the CCB isn't more like a cordless drill.</p> <p>There's nothing the CCB does or provides that helps or insures myself or anyone else has any knowledge, skill, or does good work. Only that your fees have been paid and your hoops have been jumped through. It's weird how so many states don't have any license requirements or very few, yet Oregon has some of the most extreme and ridiculous of any state. I wonder how the contractors in states with no requirements can possibly function? They must be lost without the blessing and guidance of the state to do their work. The only argument I can see for the existence of the CCB might be if the CCB would police the illegal aliens working cheap and doing shit subpar work, but as we all know that doesn't and will never happen.</p>
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Let me guess your counter argument, if you had more money you could do more enforcement. Somehow I don't think there could ever be enough money for the CCB to prevent or even make a dent in the illegal alien population working illegally. They simply don't care, and the simple fact that they're here at all is illegal to begin with. It seems like it would be pretty hard to impose fines and punishment on people who have no respect for the law to begin with.

I think I should also comment about your "continuing education" requirements. Utterly and completely useless. I don't know who it is that thinks the "continuing education" has or ever had any value, but as someone who is forced to consume it, I can assure you it does not. More hoops, It just cost me money and time. I know people in government are self important and think they are making things better, but that is seldom the case, and in this case it couldn't be more useless.

There this weird concept where if I do good work people hire me to do more good work. It works perfectly, in the 30+ years I've been working I've never had any kind of dispute or complaint and all of my work has been through word of mouth.

The CCB rides on my and every other contractors coat-tails to rationalize its existence.

I'm pretty sure there is and was a system before the CCB existed that's still probably the main way any real dispute is settled, you go to a court of law, not the CCB. If the CCB ceased to exist tomorrow it would make little if any difference. The people who have the skills, know how, and do good work would still be doing the good work that needs to be done. Others who lack skill and knowledge will try but they won't last long.

So to conclude, should you increase your fees?

ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME? HOW ABOUT NO!!

Do better, be like a cordless drill.

Anatoliy Rubanenko, Business/Organization: Unknown	Oppose	Fuck the proposed 75\$ increase fees, I can't afford groceries.
Brian Crowder, Business/Organization: CCB 55074	Oppose	Hi Shannon my opinion is we do not need more inflationary cost increases to providing goods and services to the citizens of Oregon. Thankyou for your consideration. Second Email: Good morning Shannon, I been thinking about all the inflationary cost increases that we all are feeling in our budgets these days, Maybe the CCB as an alternative, And a worthy consideration could relieve its licensees that have been in practice for 25 years could be relieved of the continuing education requirements. For myself and others that would be a huge savings in time, 8 hrs and the cost of the continuing ed. materials. Thank you for your consideration for an alternative. Brian Crowder, ccb # 55074

<p>John Gear, Business/Organization: John Gear Law Office</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>I write to oppose a general fee increase on all contractor members because that is a cost that all contractors, good and bad both, will have to pass on to all consumers. The work of the CCB is really not very dependent on the number of contractors — with computers and modern office technology and systems, managing 1,000 and 10,000 registrants isn't much different.</p> <p>What really determines the cost burden on CCB is your bad contractors who generate complaints — the contractors who don't communicate well, don't finish work, do shoddy work, etc.</p> <p>Therefore, I suggest you do NOT raise fees on all contractors; instead, CCB should hold steady or even reduce general registration fees, while starting or increasing a complaint processing fee on the contractors who get complaints.</p> <p>Just as the consumer has to pay \$50 to get a complaint processed, you should charge contractors who get complaints a processing fee sufficient to cover your budget shortfall.</p> <p>If you do it my way, the good contractors who do a good job and who impose essentially no burden on the CCB aren't hit with a fee increase and don't have to raise their prices. Instead, the contractors who provoke consumer complaints face an increased cost of doing business, which is an incentive for them to clean up their act.</p> <p>Even more importantly, if a contractor fails to pay a complaint processing fee, the complaining consumer should immediately be then allowed to proceed to court and have access to the non-appearing contractor's bond.</p>
<p>Timothy Seaton, Business/Organization: Timely Construction Inc</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Many years ago by God's grace I worked on a large residential construction project on your coast. It was summer and the weather was as pleasant as it gets there, so we would all eat our lunches outside, several dozen of us. I noticed there was one man who ate by himself alone. I sat down next to him and ate my lunch that day, and days following. Eventually we spoke. He was a native, a member of an inland tribe and staying at the reservation nearby. He told me of his concern about what we were building, pointing out the huge rotted logs washed inland by some storm long ago, well inland of the large residences we were building as near the beach as was allowed.</p> <p>He had gone to the tribal elders and expressed his concern. "Shouldn't we say something?" he asked. They instructed him to find a long rod and push it into the ground alongside one of the foundations as far as it would go, then return and tell them what he discovered. So he found a long piece of rebar early one morning and pushed it into the soil next to a foundation. The foundation being on sand, the rebar would go down as far as he wanted to push.</p> <p>He went back to the elders and told them. "Do not concern yourself," they said. "It will not last....."</p> <p>Those in charge continued building.</p> <hr/> <p>I have participated in the legislative and rule-making processes enough to know that by the time it enters the public comment stage it is already a "done deal". So I have no doubt you will impose your fee increase regardless of anything I or anyone else says. The gods you serve of</p>

Retirement and Healthcare and Increasing Cost of Living and Ever Growing and Paying More to More are demanding gods once you engage to serve them. And those decisions were made long ago.

So why comment?

Perhaps to pass on the wisdom of those tribal elders which you missed back then.

Perhaps to speak for the other dinosaurs, those creatures who like me existed constructing and contracting before you were contemplated, let alone created.

I put brick in the wall back then and placed stone, learning construction and contracting from father and grandfather and a host of other characters now passed.

That is still my service.

None of you has ever laid a brick in my wall or placed a stone, nor struck out any joint. You have never found me a single customer. Yet your demand for a share of what my sweat has earned continues to increase year by year, and the rules you demand I submit to increase year after year as well. Those other old dinosaurs predicted that when you were created. "It will always be, 'More! More!'", they said. They were wise, those dinosaurs.

I doubt there is a one of you that does not have a better retirement program, a better healthcare program. In your recent COVID party your checks kept coming. Mine did not.

And the money spent to make it all happen increases year after year. And the national debt of money spent but never earned to feed it all goes up even faster.

But still you lay no brick. Nail no studs. Place no shingles.

I have listened to you and you believe you are doing God's work (or at least your gods' work).

That you are necessary to the whole construction process.

You are not.

I was there when you were not. There was dishonesty, there were inexperienced contractors, there was corruption. This has not changed. Things were built then- just like now. Though there was more joy then for many of us.

The day is coming when you will not be again. It is the nature of things built by humans to collapse of their own hubris in the time appointed by The God Who Really Is. This is true for all of our efforts.

But after I join the other dinosaurs passed on, someone will still lay brick and place stone. After your agency dies, someone will still lay brick and place stone.

And perhaps one day soon, when I am again asking Him, "How much longer?", the God whom I serve will finally say, "We have served Oregon enough. We will no longer."

Richard Cobb, Business/Organization: CCB# 72941	Oppose	<p>Thank you for your request for contractor input.</p> <p>My bond, liability insurance, continuing education, gasoline, lumber and material costs have increased dramatically, as well as my personal expenses of groceries, mortgage interest, etc.</p> <p>All of these increased costs are passed on to my customers, whose own expenses have also climbed.</p> <p>If there are roughly 41,000 licensed contractors in Oregon, multiplied by \$75.00 proposed increase, that looks like approximately \$3,075,000 the CCB is hoping to raise.</p> <p>Taking that amount, \$3,075,000, divided by 2,750,000 Oregon taxpayers, equals \$1.12 increase per taxpayer.</p> <p>I feel like I'm paying my share already, the CCB is helping protect the homeowner, I think \$1.12 is extremely reasonable.</p>
Scott Mason, Business/Organization: BRIDAX LLC	Support	(sent three separate emails): 1) I vote no 2) I changed my mind, I vote yes. Hopefully it will weed out some of the frauds that are out there. 3) Yes increase it, maybe it will keep some of the hacks out.
Alex and Jennifer Vincent, Business/Organization: A&J Construction	Support	\$75 increase for registration is nothing. We all have had to increase our billing since 2010...heck even 2020.
Dante Construction, Business/Organization: Dante Construction	Support	<p>I'm writing in to comment on the proposed fee increases for the two-year contractors license.</p> <p>I have been licensed with Oregon CCB since 2013. While I'm never pleased with fee increases I have been pleasantly surprised that the license fee has not increased in the 11 years that I've been a licensed contractor.</p> <p>So I won't give the increase an enthusiastic endorsement but I think it is reasonable to increase the fee since the current fee hasn't increased in 14 years.</p>
Darren Singer, Business/Organization: Darren Singer Consulting LLC #214907	Support	I support increasing license fees as proposed only if there is a significant improvement in services provided by CCB in terms of customer satisfaction criteria. There has been a marked increase in wait times when using phone contact and for responses to email inquiries. Also, there needs to be some improvements for your website and policies. Why is there no way to submit electronic payment for Lead License renewal? This is absurd that applicants must either FAX payment info or send a check via snail mail. Can you use some of the additional revenue from this increase to create better electronic payment options??

<p>David Rowe, Business/Organization: Rowe Restorations</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>I am a licensed contractor with the CCB (241175). I recently received notice of a fee increase for 2024 and wanted to share feedback on the proposed fee increase.</p> <p>I am fairly new to the contracting/trade world. My prior background/experience was in the IT/Technology industry with over 30 years experience.</p> <p>My overall experience with the CCB has been good. I have had some difficulty with the onboarding process and also with the suspension side of the CCB. My license was temporarily suspended due to me not showing proof of insurance in a timely manner. I had that decision reversed based on my feedback at the time and even saw a process change, allowing contractors more time to show insurance coverage.</p> <p>The CCB takes feedback well and implements positive change which is crucial to both the CCB, contractors and Oregonians who hire contractors. I appreciate this aspect of the CCB which is why I am sharing my perspective on the rate increase:</p> <p>I am absolutely 100% behind the fee increase! I feel that \$200 a year is a bargain considering the VAST amount of support, information, education and protection that the CCB brings to everyone.</p> <p>That said: My main pinch points with the CCB is communication. Early on, email was not considered a method for which to communicate with the CCB. So it was either a phone call, a fax or a visit to the office. When email became an option for communication, such as submitting proof of insurance, it seemed like a good thing however I learned that the CCB mail system was and likely still is broken. My example is that I submitted my proof of insurance via email as per instructions. When My license was suspended, I called the CCB and waited a stunning 1hr 45m to be told "we never received the email"</p> <p>Now remember: My background is in IT. So I was able to show proof that my insurance WAS delivered to a CCB mail server. This evidence was shared with CCB managers and this is where policy change came in to play.</p> <p>That's fine and all however: Waiting that long on the phone is unacceptable. I was told it was because the staff that handles the phone calls was severely limited. I get it...state run and all...so with the fee increase, I STRONGLY urge the CCB committee to please consider more staff to handle more calls. I also urge the committee to please invest in a stronger IT infrastructure and ticketing system so that emails and tickets are tied together.</p> <p>My fear is that the increase will be squandered on other processes that have little impact. The BIGGEST impact will be to hire more staff. Yet that's typically the last thing executives want to spend the money on.</p>
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Eric Wiggins, Business/Organization: ATS Arborist Service LLC	Support	<p>I don't mind the fee increase but I do have a bone to pick with CCB. I have been a contractor since 1991 and at first I had both CCB & LCB. Years ago the CCB pushed all the tree guys into the CCB because of insurance and bonding issues, I get it and dropped my LCB. It has come to my attention in the last few years that as a tree guy with only a CCB I am not legal to plant trees! This is crap, I have been a certified arborist since 1991 and have planted over a thousand trees in my career. Now the state wants to push me to get an LCB license to plant trees after it pushed me out of LCB years ago. This is a problem for me, I do not want to get an LCB now. Sounds like a way for the state to squeeze more money out of me, it's a travesty! What's your take on this?</p> <p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Follow-up with Chris: Chris,</p> <p>I hadn't thought to ask about accredited programs outside of CCB, so at your suggestion, just now was able to quickly find; Home - Institute of Door Dealer Education and Accreditation (dooreducation.com) I know of a young fellow that will need to get his own license soon, and I will direct him as you suggested and find specific courses related to our industry for approval through Don Myron.</p> <p>Thank you also for directing me to the Consumer Hotline, I have now bookmarked that site.</p> <p>More and more frequently I have customers relate to me an experience, or someone they know, having been charged wildly inflated prices for garage door repair. Nearly every homeowner will need garage door repair of some kind. Imagine for instance, a homeowner who finds their garage door is not working. They're in a panic because they can't get their car out. If they call the first number they find online, before you know it they'll have a story of their own of some flyby taking advantage of them. Such a scenario is typically due to a broken spring. A double wide door would usually have two springs, and both should be replaced. My company and most of my local competitors currently charge \$400 or so. Time and again I hear of the same repairs being made for \$750 and more, often the work performed incorrectly. The work may take about an hour, so they'll be done and gone before CCB has any chance to observe the job site. I was glad to hear that the CCB is going to do more to crack down on online advertisers, as that is where such exploitation begins.</p> <p>I very much appreciate your attention, and although it seems disproportionate, I am happy to pay the increased fee to help the CCB do their job more effectively.</p>
Jessie Sweet, Business/Organization: Jessie Sweet Designs	Support	<p>I support the increase of \$75 for CCB licensing per two-year period. It makes sense with the increases on labor and licenses in Oregon. I want to continue to receive good service and education from the CCB.</p>
Jon Vanderlinde, Business/Organization: Select Construction	Support	<p>The fee increase is fine but as far as leveling the playing field I have been in this business for a long time and I work for a lot of big builders in Central Oregon I haven't seen one of you guys out there ever.</p> <p>Second Email: I emailed you already about the proposed fee increase. If I have to pay that what I would like to see is somebody checking the job sites once in awhile in Central Oregon I've been here a long time and I haven't seen one person come by and make sure everyone is legal. I don't work in hideaway job sites I work in some of the most busy developments in Bend Oregon and I've never seen one person come by in all of this time.</p>

Kevin Cashatt, Business/Organization: Cashatt Construction	Support	I think an increase is acceptable and appropriate. An increase in fees helps weed out those that don't belong as owners of business. It keeps people serious about what they do.
Mark Spohn, Business/Organization: Omni Garage Door	Support	<p>I was glad to be a part of today's Webinar, as my questions below were addressed. I thought to send them to you, so that I can be assured that they will remain in the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My company is a sole proprietor with no employees. Does the CCB intend to raise fees proportionately, or the same as a large company, say with 100 employees? How is that equitable? • I am required to complete continuing education segments that teach me about things like concrete spalling, but little to do with my industry, garage doors. Will the increase bring about more applicable titles? • I know of unlicensed "competitors" that very recently set up shop that use predatory practices, spending huge amounts to advertise. These companies preform services for often less than one hour, then move on to the next location. Recently even my insurance company, Farmers, made an unprecedented change to stop writing policies for garage door companies. Apparently, CCB is unable to enforce laws to these unscrupulous companies because they are not able to find them active on site. Will these new fees correct that oversight? <p>Thank you for considering these comments,</p>
Phillip Davis, Business/Organization: Squared Maintenance LLC	Support	<p>I agree to the increase of ccb dues.</p> <p>It would put it around 325? <i>Corrected his math on the outcome of the increase and offered to amend his comments if he wanted to. He still supports the increase.</i></p>
Steven Edgren, Business/Organization: Steven Edgren Carpentry LLC. CCB# 184559	Support	<p>I thought I'd chime in on the proposed licensing fee increase of \$75.00.</p> <p>If the last time the fee was increased was 2010, then I'd have to say that's a pretty darn good run! If only my material costs could freeze for 10 years without increasing. \$75.00 isn't that much so you've got no complaints from me.</p> <p>Thank you for all that you do!</p>

Steven Turner, Business/Organization: Unknown	Support	<p>In consideration of the value of the services provided as a non-partisan State agency, I think the price increase is reasonable. I have been on both sides of a dispute at times with a customer or subcontractor over the course of 30 years in construction in Oregon. I have found that the CCB has operated in a fair and reasonable fashion in such matters. I view an effort to educate both the consumers and contractors as to their responsibilities during the project delivery a good thing. I think that Oregon has done a good and reasonable job in that effort.</p> <p>Licensing, training, and monitoring is a key to reducing un-professional, un-trained, un-qualified, and even well intending people, from entering a business that inherently involves significant budgets, large variables, and complex problems. Good construction project delivery is essential to literally everyone as it can directly or indirectly affect where we sleep, how we get to work, where we eat, where we get help, buy food, and in almost every aspect of our daily lives. Reasonable industry regulation helps to set reasonable expectations on both sides.</p> <p>In consideration of what I spend on a weekly basis for fuel just to get my trucks or equipment to jobs, paying a licensing fee increase of \$75.00 is reasonable given the increased work load that the agency has at this time. Hiring qualified staff is not cheap, I understand that fact for sure. I would prefer to have people who know what they are talking about when an issue arises and the CCB might be involved. Fees directed to good education, enforcement, fair regulation, and management are acceptable in my opinion.</p>
Tom Louisell, Business/Organization: Future Phase Electric LLC	Support	<p>Hello Shannon,</p> <p>I'm a semi-retired electrical contractor that maintains licensing, bond & insurance just in case I need to pull permits to help someone with their construction needs.</p> <p>My position on the proposed fee increase would be that it is long overdue and completely reasonable. I can't even imagine a rational argument for maintaining the fee at 2010 levels .</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Tom Louisell Future Phase Electric, LLC</p>
Tralee Quick, Business/Organization: Quick's Fabrication & Mechanical Inc	Support	<p>Quick's Fabrication & Mechanical Inc has kept our rates low for our customers for over 10 years and has currently raised our rates (eff 2024) just to have a competitive wage to maintain our employees. 2010 was our last big price increase after the pain of 2008 finally subsided. It is understandable to me that the CCB, with all of the resources it provides to businesses, must have increased expenses to tend to as well. I support this proposed increase and appreciate the courteous customer service that I have always received.</p>
David Spinner, Business/Organization: Northwest Glazing Contractors LLC	Support	<p>Shannon,</p> <p>I am not opposed to the price increase for the CCB, and think it is needed and necessary for continued full service regarding your CCB operations. That is what I think. thanks, David</p>
Jason Terry, Business/Organization: CCB# 205661	Support	<p>I think the fee increase is good. Especially since it's been \$325 for 14 years.</p> <p>I'm ok with the fee increase, and every contractor should be also.</p> <p>Thanks Jason Terry CCB# 205661</p>

Jahred King, Business/Organization: Treehorn Ranch LLC	Support	Shannon, I would be happy to pay more, as long as the increase in cost reflects an increase in wages for the lowest paid or funded portions of the organization. If the increase in cost only serves to bolster the salaries of the executive levels of the organization, then it sounds no different than any other shakedown that hard working taxpayers have been burdened with since the beginning of organized government. Please pass my message along to whomever it may concern.
Alfanzo Barrera, Business/Organization: AQB Premier Construction	Support	I agree with the increase, if anything, I think it should cost more to renew, as well as in state a new license I believe it is too easy for inexperienced and educated young people these days to acquire a contractors license. I think that there should be a requirement for experience, verifiable, work history, as well as legitimate recommendations from season contractors, there is entirely too much substandard work being done in the state of Oregon by inexperienced handyman and women Speaking from experience, I have worked my entire adult life in multiple trades with the intention to acquire a general contractors. License, knowledge and experience is no longer what it requires to become a contractor only a simple bond and an easy test about legal procedure. Take this what you will, have a good day
Ralph McAfee, Business/Organization: CCB #45709	Support	I want to offer my support for a fee increase for Oregon business licenses. The proposed increase is 23%. I wish that all of our economic engines and factors were such that costs for goods and services would have risen by only 23% from 2010 to 2024. I presume that, by keeping the license costs at \$325 for the last 14 years, it does not mean that the CCB budget has not increased (even dramatically) during that same time period. I assume that there has been an increase in licenses "bought," or there has been an increase in money from the state budget, or some other avenues that have allowed the budget of CCB to increase over the last 14 years. Maybe not. Either way is fine. All the above stated, the CCB has always been absolutely wonderful for me to work with. The employees who have fielded my calls and emails over the last many years have been respectful, knowledgeable and professional. I am consistently impressed. And I have mentioned the way I feel about how the CCB is run to many people. In general, I view the CCB as an anomaly to how many of our government and healthcare entities "run." And that makes it very easy for me to give the CCB a 👍 for an increase in license fees. Feel free to leave my name on, print this email out, and put it on a bulletin board at the CCB, so employees can read it.
John Jeffries, Business/Organization: Unknown	Support	Sounds good to me keep the people who don't play by the rules
Jerry Gentry, Business/Organization: Gentry Homes	Support	I am in agreement with the fee increase. After a career starting in 1983 witnessing many changes in the CCB I can say I have never felt my money was not well spent. CCB has always been prompt and the one time I was actually in Salem at the office I was very impressed with the way I was treated and witness to others being treated the same.
Unknown, Business/Organization: awesomeopossum80@gmail.com	Support	I personally am all for it if it helps speed things up a bit the wait times can be extreme somtimes. You have my vote 👍
Gerald Bunko, Business/Organization: CCB #34056	Support	I'm in agreement with you, and keep up the good work you do.
Chris Beisel, Business/Organization: Get Bizzy Handyman	Support	Never a fan of increased pricing, but this one seems reasonably "FEE"sible to me 😊. You have my support.

Construction Contractors Board



CCB Proposed Fee Increase
Informational Webinar
January 2024



Technical Issues



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Welcome



CCB Informational Webinar – Proposed Fee Increase

- **Presenter: Chris Huntington, CCB Administrator**
- **Informational Webinar – not collecting public comment**
- **Opportunities to provide public comment**
 - Public Comment period is open until March 14th – 5:00 p.m.
 - Please submit email public comment to: Shannon.flowers@ccb.Oregon.gov
 - Mail Comments to:
 - P.O. Box 14140**
 - Salem, OR 97309-5052**
 - Public Hearing
 - March 13th – 2:00 p.m.**
 - CCB First Floor Hearing Room – 201 High Street SE, Salem, Oregon**



Overview



Key Questions we will address:

- **How are contractor fees used?**
 - Overview of Agency and Funding and Program structure
- **What has been proposed?**
 - \$75 fee increase implemented over two years beginning **July 1, 2024**
 - Total fee of \$400
- **Why does the board believe an increase is needed?**
 - Factors driving the conversation and the board's priorities
 - Current revenue cannot support existing service levels
- **Were alternatives considered?**
 - Additional reductions in staffing and service delivery
 - Defer modernization efforts
- **Brass Tacks:** Board determined that the increase was necessary to maintain adequate service levels and support modernization efforts.



CCB Funding Overview



CCB Revenue Breakdown

- **Contractor Licensing fees: 87%**
- **Civil penalties: 11%**
 - 80% of civil penalties transfer to state General Fund.
- **Miscellaneous income: 2%**
 - Filing fees, change fees, admin and processing fees etc.

CCB is a “Fee-for-Service” Agency

- Revenue/fees drive service delivery.
- CCB actively monitors and adjusts staffing, hiring service delivery based on actual and projected economic activity.
- We always look at ways to first adjust service, be more efficient, add tools to “do-more-with-less” first



Agency Structure



Board – Staff – Customers

- **Nine-member board:**

Dylan Boschler, Commercial

Eric Olsen, Residential

Rosa Martinez, Commercial

Deb Flagan, Residential

Abel Carbajal, Residential

Sean VanGordon, Local Gov.

Brent Landels, Public Member

Vacant, Public Member

*Nate Gerding, Commercial (Pending Senate Confirmation)

- **59 permanent staff** providing license, enforcement, education and dispute resolution services.
- Support approximately **50,000 licensees**.
- Consumer Protection for **ALL Oregon consumers**.



Program Overview



Licensing – 19 Staff (32% of staffing based on FTE)

- Process & screening new applications (350-400 monthly)
- Renew existing licensees (1,300 – 2,000 monthly)
- Update insurance and bonds (1,500 – 2,000 monthly)
- Customer Call center (350-500 calls daily)
- 75% Positive customer service satisfaction rating
- **Improve service delivery to be more efficient**
 - Email Reminders: more efficient, less cost
 - Online surveys: better response, real-time data
 - Call Center Call-back feature – better service; more efficient
 - **Coming soon** Online application portal – faster processing



Program Overview



Field Investigation & Compliance – 16.5 staff (28% of staffing based on FTE)

- Identifying, investigating and stopping unlicensed work
 - Field investigators: 8K annual jobsite checks
 - Compliance officers: Consumer recovery and compliance
- CCB's enforcement program is
 - **Proactive** – in the field daily trying to find unlicensed work
 - **Statewide** – investigators across the state
 - **Responsive** – reports followed up on in 24-48 hours
 - **Efficient** – around 34 days to resolve cases
- **Partnering to be more efficient:**
 - Agreement for BCD license checks – maximize resources
 - Expanding tools to address illegal online advertising
 - Cross-training field investigators to conduct mediations



Program Overview



Dispute Resolution – 7.5 FTE (13% of staffing based on FTE)

Mediate disputes between homeowners and contractors

- Voluntary program
- Alternative to costly and time-consuming court process
- Mediate approximately 1,000 disputes each year
- **Pre-complaint mediation at contractor request**
- 70% success rate if both parties participate
- **Evolving Workforce to operate more efficiently**
 - Cross-training staff to move process along more quickly
 - Moving to electronic communications



Program Overview



Consumer & Contractor Education –

4 Staff (7% of staffing based on FTE)

- Educate consumers about hiring licensed contractor, legal protections, best practices and avoiding scams
- **25-point increase in public awareness – 78%**
- Deliver contractor training on legal requirements, law changes and resources available for contractors
- Expanded information and resources available in Spanish for both consumers and contractors
- **Partnerships:** Key to delivering valuable resources & information
 - Avoiding disaster scams (DOJ, DFR and CCB)
 - Provide contractors a full regulatory picture (OSHA, DEQ, DFR)
 - Work with industry partners to share information for contractors



Program Overview



Administration and Central Services

- Administration – 4 Staff (7% of Staffing by FTE)
 - Directs agency consistent with mission, values and strategic priorities
 - Establishes and administers consistent policy through rulemaking
 - Coordinates human resource services for the agency
 - Processes public records requests and other state requirements
- Business Services – 4 Staff (7% of Staffing by FTE)
 - Budget development and execution; ongoing revenue analysis and projections
 - Procurement, contract administration, cashiering, mail etc.
- Information Technology – 4 Staff (7% of staffing by FTE)
 - Maintain and modernize IT infrastructure
 - Develop functionality that supports efficient service delivery



Fee-for-Service: Impact



How fees/revenue relate to service delivery

- Licensing
 - Processing time for license applications, renewals, license updates
 - Call center wait times – delayed service on pending issues
- Field Investigations and compliance
 - Less field presence and fewer construction sites visited
 - Longer response time on reports of unlicensed work
- Dispute resolution
 - Complaint processing delays – prolongs dispute for consumer and contractor
 - Maybe court becomes a more desirable path
- Education
 - Less consumer knowledge of importance of using licensed contractor
- Information Technology
 - Inability to invest in modernizing service
 - Prevents better, more efficient services



What is Proposed?



- **\$75 Increase to Contractor License Fee**
 - Current Fee -- \$325 (Established in 2010)
 - New fee: \$400 for a two-year license
 - Implementation Timeline
 - Renewals -- Beginning July 2024 – June 2026
 - New Applications – Beginning July 2025
- **Current Proposal was selected**
 - Provided support for existing service levels
 - Solidified the agency's capability to modernize aging systems
 - Replace aging license system with a modern solution
 - Current system built in 1990
 - Provide better services and more efficient delivery



Why Raise Fees?



Key Factors that board considered:

- **Costs Increases:** Labor cost inflation is up more than revenue
 - Since 2010 – Labor costs are up 55%
 - Upshot: **\$1.9M** projected budget deficit
- **Workload Demand:** Industry has increased
 - Since 2010 – 14% increase in the number of licensees
 - Since 2013 – 32% increase in number of licensees
 - 2013 agency staffing was adjusted downward after impact of 2008 financial crisis
- **Service levels have declined:** Agency has not grown at all
 - 2010: 1 staff member to 550 contractors
 - 2024: 1 staff member to 847 contractors



Why Raise Fees?



Board's Critical Priorities: Ensure Financial Continuity and Stability

- Address current structural budget deficit -- \$1.9M
- Maintain existing service levels
- Support IT modernization by replacing agency's aging license system (1990)



Alternatives?



Alternatives Weighed Against Board's Critical Priorities

- Address current structural budget deficit -- **\$1.9M**
 - Cuts: Staffing would need to be reduced by an additional 10 positions
 - Result would be 1 staff member to 1,020 contractors
- Maintain existing service levels
 - Cuts: Additional cuts would further reduce service, responsiveness and effectiveness
 - 2010: 1 staff member to 550 contractors
 - 2024: 1 staff member to 847 contractors
- Support IT modernization by replacing agency's aging license system (1990)
 - Delaying IT modernization:
 - Risks critical failure
 - Holds agency back from providing better services more efficiently



Summary



- Fees/revenue drive service delivery.
- Current revenue will not support existing service levels.
- Contractor fees have not been adjusted upward since 2010.
- Agency regularly adjusts to hold costs and maintain service.
- Agency faces critical priorities of addressing cost increases, maintaining services and investing in IT modernization.

- **Brass Tacks:** Board determined that the increase was necessary to maintain adequate services and support modernization efforts.



Public Comment



- **Opportunities to provide public comment**
 - Public Comment period is open until March 14th – 5:00 p.m.
 - Please submit email public comment to:
Shannon.flowers@ccb.Oregon.gov
 - Mail Comments to:
P.O. Box 14140
Salem, OR 97309-5052
 - Public Hearing
March 13th – 2:00 p.m.
CCB Hearing Room – 201 High Street SE, Salem, Oregon