HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chairman of Committee

<u>March 3, 2010</u> Date

Committee on Business Affairs and Labor.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

<u>HB10-1162</u> be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on <u>Appropriations</u> with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and 2 substitute:

3 "SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general
4 assembly hereby finds and declares that:

5 (a) The construction industry is a significant component of the 6 state's economy;

7 (b) There is a substantial statewide interest in fostering the growth
8 and stability of the construction industry and ensuring that it remains
9 economically viable;

(c) The ability of construction and design enterprises to obtain and
 satisfactorily perform projects in the private and public sectors affects the
 construction industry as a whole;

(d) Clauses in construction contracts that allow builders to not
fully fund changes to contracts prior to performance of such work and to
pay for such work in a timely fashion have ruinous financial
consequences for the affected contractors and subcontractors; and

(e) There is a substantial statewide interest in ensuring that thepolicy underlying the efficient expenditure of funds is balanced with the

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- 1 policy of fostering a healthy and viable Colorado construction industry.
- 2 (2) The general assembly hereby declares that:

3 (a) The practice of withholding earned revenue through 4 construction contracts is a matter of statewide concern and is affected 5 with a public interest; and

6 (b) It is within the police power of the state to protect the health,7 peace, safety, and welfare of the people of the state.

8 SECTION 2. Title 38, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY
9 THE ADDITION OF A NEW ARTICLE to read:

10ARTICLE 1511Retainage in Commercial Construction Contracts

12 38-15-101. Definitions. As used in this article, unless the
13 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(1) "BUILDING CLIENT" MEANS A PERSON WHO OWNS, MANAGES,
OR LEASES REAL PROPERTY AND WHO CAUSES A BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR
IMPROVEMENT ON REAL PROPERTY TO BE CONSTRUCTED, ALTERED,
MOVED, OR DEMOLISHED OR WHO CAUSES LAND TO BE EXCAVATED OR
OTHERWISE DEVELOPED OR IMPROVED. "BUILDING CLIENT" DOES NOT
INCLUDE A PUBLIC ENTITY.

20 (2) "CONSTRUCTION PROJECT" MEANS A PROJECT THAT IS THE 21 SUBJECT OF A CONTRACT.

22 (3) "CONTRACT" MEANS AN AGREEMENT OR SUBCONTRACT FOR 23 MATERIALS OR LABOR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, 24 RENOVATION, OR REPAIR OF A BUILDING, BUILDING SITE, STRUCTURE, 25 HIGHWAY, STREET, ROADWAY, BRIDGE, VIADUCT, WATER OR SEWER 26 SYSTEM, GAS OR OTHER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, OR OTHER WORK DEALING 27 WITH CONSTRUCTION OR FOR ANY MOVING, DEMOLITION, OR EXCAVATION CONNECTED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS 28 ARTICLE, "CONTRACT" DOES NOT INCLUDE: 29

30 (a) ANY REAL PROPERTY LEASE OR RENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
 31 A LANDLORD AND A TENANT, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER ANY PROVISION

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OF THE LEASE OR RENTAL AGREEMENT CONCERNS CONSTRUCTION,
 ALTERATION, IMPROVEMENT, OR MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY;

3 (b) AN AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT,
4 ALTERATION, MOVING, OR DEMOLITION OF A SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING OR
5 MULTI-FAMILY DWELLING WITH NO MORE THAN TWO UNITS; OR

6 (c) A CONTRACT BETWEEN A BUILDING CLIENT AND A CONTRACTOR
7 IN AN AMOUNT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

8 (4) "CONTRACTOR" MEANS A PERSON WHO ENTERS INTO A 9 CONTRACT WITH A BUILDING CLIENT.

10 (5) "FINAL COMPLETION" MEANS THE STAGE OF A PROJECT AT
11 WHICH ALL CONDITIONS FOR FINAL PAYMENT AND RELEASE OF RETAINAGE
12 CONTAINED IN THE CONTRACT HAVE BEEN SATISFIED.

13 (6) "RETAINAGE" MEANS MONEY WITHHELD FROM A CONTRACTOR
14 OR SUBCONTRACTOR UNDER A CONTRACT UNTIL THE WORK IS
15 SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED.

16 (7) "SUBCONTRACTOR" MEANS A PERSON WHO, FOR PROFIT,
17 ENTERS INTO A SUBCONTRACT WITH A CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR
18 TO PERFORM A PORTION OF THE WORK UNDER A CONTRACT WITH A
19 BUILDING CLIENT.

20 38-15-102. Retainage limits. (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 21 SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SECTION, A BUILDING CLIENT OR 22 CONTRACTOR SHALL PAY AT LEAST NINETY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE 23 CALCULATED VALUE OF SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED WORK UNDER THE 24 CONTRACT OR A SUBCONTRACT THEREOF UNTIL FIFTY PERCENT OF THE 25 WORK REQUIRED BY A CONTRACT HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED. 26 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, A BUILDING 27 CLIENT OR CONTRACTOR SHALL PAY AT LEAST NINETY-SEVEN AND 28 ONE-HALF PERCENT OF THE CALCULATED VALUE OF SATISFACTORILY 29 COMPLETED WORK AFTER FIFTY PERCENT OF THE WORK REOUIRED BY A 30 CONTRACT HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED. THE CALCULATED 31 VALUE OF THE WORK DOES NOT INCLUDE THE PORTION OF THE CONTRACT 32 PRICE THAT IS USED TO STORE MATERIALS OR EQUIPMENT AT THE 33 CONSTRUCTION SITE.

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(2) IF WORK HAS BEEN UNSATISFACTORILY COMPLETED OR IS NOT
 COMPLETED ON TIME, THE BUILDING CLIENT OR CONTRACTOR MAY
 WITHHOLD PAYMENT FOR SUCH WORK BEYOND THE AMOUNT AUTHORIZED
 IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONTRACT
 OR EQUAL TO THE VALUE OF THE DELAYED OR UNSATISFACTORILY
 COMPLETED PORTION OF THE CONTRACT UNTIL IT IS SATISFACTORILY
 COMPLETED.

8 (3) THE BUILDING CLIENT MAY WITHHOLD A RETAINAGE PAYMENT
9 TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 38-26-107.

10 (4) RETAINAGE SHALL NOT BE WITHHELD FOR THE PORTION OF A
11 CONTRACT PRICE THAT COVERS THE COST OF STORING MATERIALS OR
12 EQUIPMENT AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE.

(5) THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT LIMIT THE RIGHT OF THE LENDER TO A
BUILDING CLIENT FOR A CONSTRUCTION PROJECT TO WITHHOLD ADVANCES
OR PAYMENT TO THE BUILDING CLIENT PURSUANT TO A LOAN AGREEMENT
UNTIL THE LENDER HAS INSPECTED THE WORK FOR WHICH PAYMENT IS
REQUESTED AND THE LENDER DETERMINES THAT THE WORK IS
SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED.

19 38-15-103. Retainage interest. (1) WHEN THE RETAINAGE IS
20 RELEASED TO THE CONTRACTOR, THE BUILDING CLIENT SHALL PAY TO THE
21 CONTRACTOR ANY INCOME OR INTEREST EARNED FROM THE INVESTMENT
22 OF THE RETAINAGE WHILE THE BUILDING CLIENT HELD THE RETAINAGE.

(2) WHEN THE RETAINAGE IS RELEASED TO A SUBCONTRACTOR,
THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PAY TO THE SUBCONTRACTOR WHO DID THE
WORK FOR WHICH RETAINAGE WAS WITHHELD ANY INCOME OR INTEREST
EARNED FROM THE INVESTMENT OF THE RETAINAGE WHILE THE BUILDING
CLIENT OR CONTRACTOR HELD THE RETAINAGE.

(3) THE BUILDING CLIENT SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CONTRACTOR
AND THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE TO EACH SUBCONTRACTOR WHO
DID THE WORK FOR WHICH RETAINAGE WAS WITHHELD A DETAILED
ACCOUNTING OF ANY INCOME OR INTEREST EARNED FROM THE
INVESTMENT OF THE RETAINAGE.

33 38-15-104. Payment required. (1) WHEN A CONTRACTOR OR
34 SUBCONTRACTOR RECEIVES A PAYMENT FOR THE WORK OF A

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SUBCONTRACTOR, THE CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL
 FORWARD THE PAYMENT TO THE SUBCONTRACTOR WHO PERFORMED THE
 WORK WITHIN SEVEN DAYS.

4 (2) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 38-15-102 (2), THE BUILDING
5 CLIENT SHALL PAY TO THE CONTRACTOR THE BALANCE OF THE UNPAID
6 CONTRACT PRICE, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE ALL RETAINAGE PLUS INTEREST
7 ACCRUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-15-103, WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER
8 THE EARLIER OF THE BUILDING BEING APPROVED FOR OCCUPANCY OR
9 RECEIVING NOTICE OF FINAL COMPLETION.

10 (3) IF THE CONTRACTOR DETERMINES THAT A SUBCONTRACTOR'S 11 PERFORMANCE HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED AND THE 12 SUBCONTRACTOR CAN BE RELEASED PRIOR TO FINAL COMPLETION OF THE 13 ENTIRE PROJECT WITHOUT RISK TO THE BUILDING CLIENT FROM THE 14 SUBCONTRACTOR'S WORK, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL REQUEST AN 15 ADJUSTMENT IN RETAINAGE FROM THE OWNER AS NECESSARY TO ENABLE 16 THE CONTRACTOR TO PAY THE SUBCONTRACTOR IN FULL, AND THE 17 BUILDING CLIENT SHALL RELEASE THE SUBCONTRACTOR'S RETAINAGE TO 18 THE CONTRACTOR AS PART OF THE NEXT CONTRACTUAL PAYMENT CYCLE.

19 38-15-105. Substitute securities. (1) THE CONTRACTOR MAY
20 TENDER TO THE BUILDING CLIENT ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY
21 WITH A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF
22 THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY. UPON RECEIVING SUCH A REQUEST AND
23 ACCEPTABLE SECURITY, THE BUILDING CLIENT SHALL EITHER:

(a) PAY THE RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE SUBSTITUTE
SECURITY WITHIN SEVEN DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE SUBSTITUTE
SECURITY IF THE RETAINAGE COVERED BY THE SECURITY HAS ALREADY
BEEN WITHHELD; OR

(b) DISCONTINUE WITHHOLDING RETAINAGE UNTIL THE AMOUNT
NOT WITHHELD EQUALS THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY IF THE RETAINAGE HAS
NOT BEEN WITHHELD.

(2) THE SUBCONTRACTOR MAY TENDER TO THE CONTRACTOR
ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY WITH A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR
RELEASE OF RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY.
UPON RECEIVING SUCH A REQUEST AND ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE
SECURITY, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL TENDER THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY

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TO THE BUILDING CLIENT WITH A REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF THE
 RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY.

3 (3) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING
4 CONSTITUTE ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY IN THE AMOUNT OF THE
5 RETAINAGE RELEASED:

6 (a) AN IRREVOCABLE AND UNCONDITIONAL LETTER OF CREDIT IN
7 FAVOR OF THE BUILDING CLIENT, ISSUED BY A NATIONAL BANK OR
8 BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION LOCATED IN COLORADO OR BY A BANK
9 INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF COLORADO;

10 (b) RETAINAGE BONDS NAMING THE BUILDING CLIENT AS OBLIGEE,
11 ISSUED BY A SURETY COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE BONDS IN
12 COLORADO; AND

13 (c) CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT DRAWN AND ISSUED BY A NATIONAL
 14 BANK OR BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION LOCATED IN COLORADO OR BY
 15 A BANK INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF COLORADO.

16 38-15-106. Violations. (1) A BUILDING CLIENT, CONTRACTOR, OR
17 SUBCONTRACTOR WHO VIOLATES THIS ARTICLE BY FAILING TO MAKE A
18 PAYMENT REQUIRED BY SECTION 38-15-104 SHALL BE LIABLE FOR THE
19 PAYMENT PLUS INTEREST AND A PENALTY TO ANY PERSON SUFFERING
20 DAMAGES ON ACCOUNT OF THE VIOLATION. THE PENALTY IS FIFTEEN
21 PERCENT INTEREST PER ANNUM, COMPOUNDED DAILY.

(2) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER REMEDY, FAILURE TO PAY
INTEREST IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 38-15-103 OR 38-15-104 SHALL
SUBJECT THE PROPERTY TO A MECHANICS' LIEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH
ARTICLE 22 OF THIS TITLE; EXCEPT THAT THE LIEN SHALL BE SUBORDINATE
TO ANY OTHER LIEN RECORDED PRIOR TO THE MECHANICS' LIEN.

27 SECTION 3. 24-91-102, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended
28 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

29 24-91-102. Definitions. As used in this article, unless the context
 30 otherwise requires:

31 (3.5) "RETAINAGE" MEANS MONEY WITHHELD FROM A
 32 CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR UNDER A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

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1 UNTIL THE WORK IS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED.

2 SECTION 4. 24-91-103 (1) and (3), Colorado Revised Statutes,
3 are amended to read:

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24-91-103. Public entity - contracts - partial payments.

5 (1) (a) A public entity awarding a contract exceeding one hundred fifty 6 thousand dollars for the construction, alteration, or repair of any highway, 7 public building, public work, or public improvement, structure, or system 8 shall authorize partial payments of the amount due under such contract at 9 the end of each calendar month, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to the 10 contractor, if the contractor is satisfactorily performing the contract. 11 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1), THE 12 PUBLIC ENTITY SHALL PAY at least ninety NINETY-FIVE percent of the 13 calculated value of any work THE completed WORK shall be paid until 14 fifty percent of the work required by the contract has been performed. 15 Thereafter, the public entity shall pay any of the remaining installments 16 without retaining additional funds if, in the opinion of the public entity, 17 satisfactory progress is being made in the work SATISFACTORILY 18 COMPLETED. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS 19 SUBSECTION (1), THE PUBLIC ENTITY SHALL PAY AT LEAST NINETY-SEVEN 20 AND ONE-HALF PERCENT OF THE CALCULATED VALUE OF COMPLETED 21 WORK IN A TIMELY MANNER AFTER FIFTY PERCENT OF THE WORK 22 REQUIRED BY THE CONTRACT HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED. 23 THE CALCULATED VALUE OF THE WORK SHALL NOT INCLUDE THE PORTION 24 OF THE CONTRACT PRICE THAT IS USED TO STORE MATERIALS OR 25 EQUIPMENT AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE. ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF SUCH 26 COSTS SHALL BE PAID IN A TIMELY MANNER.

27 (b) (I) The withheld percentage of the contract price of any such 28 CONTRACTED work, improvement, or construction shall MAY be retained 29 until the contract is completed satisfactorily and finally accepted by the 30 public entity. If the public entity finds that satisfactory progress is being 31 made in all phases of the contract, it may, upon written request by the 32 contractor, authorize final payment from the withheld percentage to the 33 contractor or subcontractors who have completed their work in a manner 34 finally acceptable to the public entity. Before such payment is made, the 35 public entity shall determine that satisfactory and substantial reasons exist 36 for the payment and shall require written approval from any surety 37 furnishing bonds for the contract work SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE.

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1 (II) IF THE CONTRACTED WORK HAS BEEN UNSATISFACTORILY 2 COMPLETED OR IS NOT COMPLETED ON TIME, THE BUILDING CLIENT MAY 3 WITHHOLD PAYMENT FOR SUCH WORK BEYOND THE AMOUNT AUTHORIZED 4 IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 5 CONTRACT OR EQUAL TO THE VALUE OF THE DELAYED OR 6 UNSATISFACTORILY COMPLETED PORTION OF THE CONTRACT UNTIL IT IS 7 SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED.

8 (III) THE PUBLIC ENTITY MAY WITHHOLD A RETAINAGE TO COMPLY
9 WITH SECTION 38-26-107.

(3) The provisions of this section shall apply to contracts between
 contractors and subcontractors entered into on or after July 1, 1991.

SECTION 5. 24-91-103.6 (2) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
 amended to read:

14 24-91-103.6. Public entity - contracts - appropriations - change
 15 orders - severability. (2) Every public works contract, as defined in
 16 section 24-91-103.5 (1) (b), shall contain the following:

(b) A clause which THAT prohibits the issuance of any change
order or other form of order or directive by the public entity requiring
additional compensable work to be performed, which work causes the
aggregate amount payable under the contract to exceed the amount
appropriated for the original contract, unless:

(I) The contractor is given written assurance by the public entity
that lawful appropriations to cover the costs of the additional work have
been made AND THE APPROPRIATIONS ARE AVAILABLE BEFORE
PERFORMANCE OF THE ADDITIONAL WORK; or unless such

26 (II) THE work is covered under a remedy-granting provision in the27 contract.

28 SECTION 6. Article 91 of title 24, Colorado Revised Statutes, is
29 amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW
30 SECTIONS to read:

31 24-91-111. Retainage interest. (1) WHEN THE RETAINAGE IS
 32 RELEASED TO THE CONTRACTOR, THE PUBLIC ENTITY SHALL PAY TO THE

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1 CONTRACTOR ANY INCOME OR INTEREST EARNED FROM THE INVESTMENT

2 OF THE RETAINAGE WHILE THE PUBLIC ENTITY HELD THE RETAINAGE.

3 (2) WHEN THE RETAINAGE IS RELEASED TO A SUBCONTRACTOR,
4 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PAY TO THE SUBCONTRACTOR WHO DID THE
5 WORK FOR WHICH RETAINAGE WAS WITHHELD ANY INCOME OR INTEREST
6 EARNED FROM THE INVESTMENT OF THE RETAINAGE WHILE THE PUBLIC
7 ENTITY OR THE CONTRACTOR HELD THE RETAINAGE.

8 (3) THE PUBLIC ENTITY SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CONTRACTOR, AND 9 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE TO THE SUBCONTRACTOR WHO DID THE 10 WORK FOR WHICH RETAINAGE WAS WITHHELD A DETAILED ACCOUNTING 11 OF ANY INCOME OR INTEREST EARNED FROM THE INVESTMENT OF THE 12 RETAINAGE.

13 24-91-112. Substitute securities. (1) THE CONTRACTOR MAY
14 TENDER TO THE PUBLIC ENTITY ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY WITH
15 A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE
16 SUBSTITUTE SECURITY. UPON RECEIVING SUCH A REQUEST AND
17 ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY, THE PUBLIC ENTITY SHALL EITHER:

(a) PAY THE RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE SUBSTITUTE
SECURITY WITHIN SEVEN DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE SUBSTITUTE
SECURITY IF THE RETAINAGE COVERED BY THE SECURITY HAS ALREADY
BEEN WITHHELD; OR

(b) DISCONTINUE WITHHOLDING RETAINAGE UNTIL THE AMOUNT
NOT WITHHELD EQUALS THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY IF THE RETAINAGE HAS
NOT BEEN WITHHELD.

(2) THE SUBCONTRACTOR MAY TENDER TO THE CONTRACTOR
ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY WITH A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR
RELEASE OF RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY.
UPON RECEIVING SUCH A REQUEST AND ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE
SECURITY, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL TENDER THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY
TO THE PUBLIC ENTITY WITH A REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF THE
RETAINAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY.

32 (3) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING
33 CONSTITUTE ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE SECURITY IN THE AMOUNT OF THE
34 RETAINAGE RELEASED:

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(a) AN IRREVOCABLE AND UNCONDITIONAL LETTER OF CREDIT, IN
 FAVOR OF THE BUILDING CLIENT, ISSUED BY A NATIONAL BANK OR
 BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION LOCATED IN COLORADO OR BY A BANK
 INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF COLORADO;

5 (b) RETAINAGE BONDS NAMING THE BUILDING CLIENT AS OBLIGEE,
6 ISSUED BY A SURETY COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE BONDS IN
7 COLORADO; AND

8 (c) CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT DRAWN AND ISSUED BY A NATIONAL
9 BANK OR BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION LOCATED IN COLORADO OR BY
10 A BANK INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF COLORADO.

11 **24-91-113. Violations.** A PUBLIC ENTITY, CONTRACTOR, OR 12 SUBCONTRACTOR WHO VIOLATES THIS ARTICLE BY FAILING TO MAKE A 13 PAYMENT REQUIRED BY SECTION 24-91-103 SHALL BE LIABLE FOR THE 14 PAYMENT PLUS INTEREST AND A PENALTY TO ANY PERSON SUFFERING 15 DAMAGES ON ACCOUNT OF THE VIOLATION. THE PENALTY IS FIFTEEN 16 PERCENT INTEREST PER ANNUM COMPOUNDED DAILY.

17 SECTION 7. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act 18 shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the 19 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 20 11, 2010, if adjournment sine die is on May 12, 2010); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the 21 22 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act 23 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part shall not take effect 24 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in 25 November 2010 and shall take effect on the date of the official 26 declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.".

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