

**MINORITY CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL**  
Meeting the Challenges of Construction with Excellence & Diversity

Friday, February 13, 2009

Topic: An Act on Concerning Construction Change Orders

Where: The State of Connecticut General Assembly General Law Committee @ 10:00 A.M.

From: Cesar Mejia: Executive Director of the Minority Construction Council (MCC)

Good Morning representatives of the General Law Committee:

My Name is Cesar Mejia and I am the Executive Director of the Minority Construction Council here in Hartford, also known as the MCC. We represent minority contractors from all four corners of the state and our mission is to promote the overall health and vitality of the states minority contracting community. Our members buy materials, equipment goods and services, provide opportunities to the underemployed, provide training to those who need it, create commerce and build bridges between both the private and public sector to create a better Connecticut. We have over 150 members and independently our members are very engaged in the political process that affects their business, personal and professional lives and I am here today to speak on their behalf.

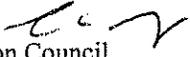
The MCC is in support of this legislation for two basic reasons. First, it is our belief that this legislation will help the State of Connecticut decrease its spending in the construction arena. Within construction projects there are issues that can and should be solved as quickly as they develop that are being postponed to a later date. The State incurs additional cost due to delays and claims that are derived from conflicts in interest accumulated.

Secondly, the individuals that are presently financing the projects are the sub-contractors. They have to pay for materials, labor, etc. before they get paid. This practice is unfair compounded by the fact that the change order and/or payment issues are not solved in a timely manner. They are also mandated to proceed in performing work. Who and how this particular work is supposed to get paid have not been resolved.

In closing, we, the MCC of Connecticut encourage you to keep support this legislation as it will save the State of Connecticut millions of dollars and the sub-contractors will get a fair deal. Thank you for your time. Are there any questions?

Respectfully Submitted this day as Testimony:

Cesar Mejia

Executive Director   
Minority Construction Council