

Building Industry Fairness (Security of Payment) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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7 March 2024

Mr Christopher (Chris) Whiting
Member for Bancroft
Committee Chair
Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee

By Email: hbbmc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

Re: *Building Industry Fairness (Security of Payment) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 – Submission*

The National Fire Industry Association of Australia Ltd (**NFIA**) is the peak association operating in the Fire Protection sector. We represent employers, suppliers and industry stakeholders who work at the frontline of Fire Protection, with over 80 percent of the commercial Fire Protection work undertaken in Australia being completed by NFIA Members.

The NFIA welcomes the introduction of the *Building Industry Fairness (Security of Payment) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 (Bill)* to Queensland Parliament.

For many years the NFIA has fought for comprehensive reform in this space. We believe security of payment reforms should guarantee that contractors are paid in full, and on time.

The NFIA has been a consistent and long-term supporter of the Government's work to improve security of payment for contractors, including the passing of the original *Building Industry Fairness (Security of Payment) Act 2017*.

By the end of October 2025, we will see the completed implementation of the new project and retention trust account framework. This Bill will bring about sensible changes to remove unintended impediments to software development, changes which are critical to implementation efforts and industry readiness.

The NFIA is strongly committed to supporting initiatives that ensure contractors are paid in full, and on time. The practical amendments contained in this Bill will support the achievability of Queensland's new framework for security of payment.



One such example is the proposed amendment to clarify that the retention trust applies to cash retention amounts inclusive of any GST amount applicable for the amount under the contract (that being, the full amount that may become due). This change will assist in mitigating the risk to contractors of retention trust shortfalls.

Should you have any questions or require any further information on any aspects of this correspondence, please contact us using the details provided.

Kind regards,



Joe Smith
Chief Executive Officer
National Fire Industry Association of Australia