

HB 576 -- Prevailing Wage

Co-Sponsors: Hunter, Ruestman, Wilson (130), Bean, Guest, Morris, Stevenson, Jetton, Hobbs

This bill:

(1) Excludes decorating, maintenance, replacement, or repairs and public works projects with a total cost of less than \$150,000 from the prevailing wage law;

(2) Restricts the application of the prevailing wage law to actual construction only and to public works that are fixed works that are both constructed for public use or benefit and directly paid for wholly or in part out of public funds;

(3) Requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to determine the schedule of prevailing hourly wages by occupational title as claimed by each union attached to and made part of the specifications for the work. Where no wages are reported for a particular locality, the wage rate will be 1.5 times the most recent hourly wage rate for the locality as published on or before March 10 of each year by the Missouri Economic Research Center or its successor. These rates must be included in the advertising of bids;

(4) Allows an interested party to report an alleged violation of the prevailing wage law to the contracting public body, who in turn, must report any alleged violation to the department. The department must investigate and either confirm or dismiss the complaint. Upon confirmation of a violation, the public body must withhold and retain only the sum due as a result of a confirmed violation;

(5) Removes the requirement for contractors and subcontractors engaged in construction of public works of keeping records with the names of every workman employed by them in connection with the public work and the requirement to have signs on all vehicles or at the entrance of a work site; and

(6) Limits violations of the prevailing wage law to willful violations.