



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2693</b>		DATE: <b>2/24/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Economic Development</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>BRENT HEMPHILL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-893-4241</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>PORT KC</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>POB 156</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFF CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ZACH POLLOCK</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-645-3210</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>MO PORT AUTHORITY ASSOCIATION</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>125 E. HIGH ST., STE. 200</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 11:20 PM</b>
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**I am Opposed to this Bill. This Bill is a Power-Grab and providing additional Powers and Control to Port Authorities across the State. Port Authorities are one (1) of the most powerful Political Subdivisions in Our State. There are way to many issues in the Bill that will have Legal Challenges and be deemed Unconstitutional by our State Courts.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>RALPH OROPEZA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>GREATER KANSAS CITY BUILDING &amp; CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL</b>		TITLE: <b>BUSINESS MANAGER</b>
ADDRESS: <b>6601 WINCHESTER SUITE 155</b>		
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>	STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64133</b>
EMAIL: <b>mike@buildkc.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 12:08 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

The Greater Kansas City Building & Construction Trades formally stands in opposition to HB 2693. The Building Trades Council supports responsible economic growth and workforce force development for the region which will only serve to help the state. However, the lack of prevailing wage protections, responsible certified training requirements, and compliance with enforcement for these aspects at the Port Authority of Kansas City pose a huge problem for the workers in Kansas City both union and non-union alike.

The current structure of the Port Authority's development deals frequently allows projects to bypass standard Missouri prevailing wage requirements. This creates an unlevel playing field which harms local contractors and the entire skilled workforce in Kansas City. While there are ongoing discussions to level the playing field with all other agencies rules and requirements through internal Port KC policy changes, the fact remains these protections are not currently codified or applied. Granting expanded powers to an entity that has not yet solidified its commitment to prevailing wage is a move that only helps to use Missouri taxpayer dollars and public incentives to develop the workforce of other states.

Until the Port Authority adopts and demonstrates a consistent adherence to prevailing wage, moving forward with this expansion is premature and potentially harmful to our local economy and workforce. The Greater Kansas City Building & Construction Trades urges this committee to vote "No" on HB 2693.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Oropeza  
Business Manager  
The Greater Kansas City Building & Construction Trades Council



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2026 8:52 AM</b>

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Enactment of HB 2693 expands port authority powers while reducing transparency and procedural safeguards, increases procurement discretion and raises bid thresholds, creates a new armed enforcement category (“port rangers”), and diverts state withholding into non-reverting funds through AIM zones.

The General Assembly is on notice these changes foreseeably increase audit exposure, Sunshine disputes, procurement challenges, and liability risk related to quasi-law-enforcement operations and incentive/tax-diversion administration.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>WADE KIEFER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-489-6706</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>IBEW 124</b>		TITLE: <b>BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>301 E 103RD TERRACE</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64114</b>
EMAIL: <b>wkiefer@ibewlocal124.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/23/2026 7:31 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 124 formally stands in opposition to HB 2693. While we support responsible economic growth, this legislation, as drafted, presents significant risks to the local workforce and established jurisdictional boundaries. Our opposition is rooted in two primary concerns: the overreach of expansion powers and the lack of mandatory prevailing wage protections at the Port Authority of Kansas City.

HB 2693 contains language that would allow the Port Authority to expand its reach into neighboring counties. This expansion risks undermining the authority of existing Economic Development Councils and established taxing jurisdictions that have long-standing relationships with their local communities. By bypassing these localized bodies, the bill threatens to destabilize coordinated regional development efforts.

The current structure of the Port Authority's development deals frequently allows projects to bypass standard prevailing wage requirements. This creates an unlevel playing field that harms local contractors and the skilled workforce in Kansas City. While there have been ongoing discussions to rectify this through internal policy changes, the fact remains that these protections are not currently codified or consistently applied.

Granting expanded powers to an entity that has not yet solidified its commitment to prevailing wage is a move that favors out-of-state interests over Missouri's own workers.

Until the Port Authority adopts and demonstrates a consistent adherence to prevailing wage, moving forward with this expansion is premature and potentially harmful to our local economy. IBEW Local 124 urges this committee to vote "No" on HB 2693.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Wade Kiefer  
 IBEW 124