

PREVAILING WAGE FACTS



What Are Prevailing Wage Laws?

Missouri's Prevailing Wage laws ensure that ALL skilled workers are paid fairly, so employers can't undercut them and drive wages down, hurting our economy.

Who's Behind The Attempts To Repeal Our Prevailing Wage?

Efforts to repeal Missouri's prevailing wage laws are being pushed by big corporations and billionaires who are trying to pad their own pockets at the expense of Missouri workers, lowering wages and hurting the middle class.

Why Are We Fighting To Keep Strong Prevailing Wage Laws?

LOCAL JOBS - Prevailing Wage ensures that firms that bring in lower-cost, out-of-state labor for the job do not outbid private companies that use state labor, keeping jobs local.

SAFER SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS - Prevailing Wage laws ensure our schools and roads are built safely, by qualified and skilled workers, not by out-of-state companies or undocumented workers.

LESS GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE - Prevailing Wage allows employees to receive more comprehensive benefit packages and reduces reliance on the public sector for health insurance, retirement benefits and other forms of public assistance.

KEEPS MISSOURI'S ECONOMY STRONG - Cutting construction workers' pay and allowing out-of-state companies to build in Missouri will have a direct effect on tax revenues throughout the state, hurting the economy.

QUALITY WORK, UNDER BUDGET - When you look at Prevailing Wage states, workers finish projects more quickly, more safely and under budget.

Repealing Prevailing Wage Would Be Bad For Missouri's Economy

- ✓ The repeal of the prevailing wage statute would cost the residents of Missouri and their families between \$216.5 million and \$346.6 million annually in lost income.¹
- ✓ The total economic loss due to the repeal of the prevailing wage law in Missouri would be a loss of income and revenue between \$225.3 million and \$360.7 million annually.¹
- ✓ States with weak or no prevailing wage laws currently spend \$367 million more per year on food stamps and Earned Income Tax Credits for blue collar construction workers than states with average/strong prevailing wage laws.²
- ✓ Prevailing wage laws keeps out-of-state contractors from coming in and underbidding local contractors that contribute to support working families, local communities and the local and state economy.

- ✓ Opponents of prevailing wage claim that repealing or weakening the wage policy will save taxpayer dollars, yet 75% of recent peer-reviewed studies indicate that construction costs are not affected by prevailing wage.²

Repealing Prevailing Wage = Unsafe Working Conditions

- ✓ On average, there are 8.5 fatal work-related injuries per 100,000 full-time construction workers in states with strong prevailing wage laws. By contrast, the fatality rate is 12.1 work-related deaths per 100,000 full-time construction workers in states without a prevailing wage law.²
- ✓ Prevailing wage maintains a ready, local skilled workforce required to complete projects on time and on budget while keeping the worksite safe.
- ✓ Prevailing wage laws ensure quality workmanship, high workforce productivity and strengthens workforce development programs that promote construction career pathways. Skilled workers paid prevailing wages are 15% more productive than their lower paid, less-skilled counterparts. Their productivity enables contractors to do high-quality work quickly with less waste creating more efficiency on prevailing wage projects.

[1] Michael P. Kelsay, Ph.D., *The Adverse Economic Impact from Repeal of the Prevailing Wage Law in Missouri*, April 2016

[2] Frank Manzo IV, MPP; Alex Lantsberg, MCP, AICP; and Kevin Duncan, PhD *The Economic, Fiscal, and Social Impacts of State Prevailing Wage Laws: Choosing Between the High Road and the Low Road in the Construction Industry*, February 2016

HOW CAN YOU HELP? TAKE ACTION TODAY

Call your elected officials to protect

Prevailing Wage today

<p>Call your Missouri Senator using this number:</p> <p>1-800-208-3499</p>	<p>Get connected to your Missouri Representative:</p> <p>573-751-2000</p>	<p>Call Governor Greitens:</p> <p>573-751-3222</p>
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Ask them to oppose any legislation that would weaken or repeal Prevailing Wage laws in Missouri!

 **protectmofamilies**

For more information visit www.protectmofamilies.com