

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	8 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Hicks, Olson, Schaufler, Tomei, Wand, Whisnant, Barker, Krieger
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Garrett, Nolan
Prepared By:	Cheyenne Ross, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	5/11, 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes requirement for Bureau of Labor and Industries (Bureau) to compare state and federal wage rates and make results available. Directs public agencies to include provision for payment of higher wage rate by contractors and subcontractors in public works contracts. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Improved technology makes “double rate book” obsolete; also cumbersome and expensive to produce

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Bureau of Labor and Industries enforces Oregon’s prevailing wage rate law. Oregon wages may apply to a public works project concurrently with federal rates, and state law requires contracts for such “double covered” projects to include both the applicable rates, and to pay whichever is higher for each occupation on the job.

Senate Bill 178 does not change current law except to eliminate the Bureau’s having to prepare and publish a hard copy “double rate book” listing federal and state wage rates.