

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 4 - 0 - 2
Yeas: Burdick, Girod, Starr, Beyer
Nays: 0
Exc.: Atkinson, Edwards
Prepared By: Richard Berger, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/8, 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes requirement for the Commissioner of Bureau of Labor and Industries to compare state and federal prevailing wage rates and make available results of the comparison. Directs public agencies to require that contracts for public works include a provision that the contractor and subcontractor pay higher of applicable state or federal prevailing rate of wage. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Semi-annual publication confusing since federal rates change around 20 times per year
- Cost savings of going paperless

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Bureau of Labor and Industries enforces Oregon’s Prevailing Wage Rate law, which can apply concurrently with the federal Davis-Bacon Act to a single public works project. Since 2005, state law has required the contract specifications for such “double covered” projects to include both the applicable state and federal wage rates; the higher must be paid to each occupation on the job.