



State of Wisconsin  
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1746/P2  
MED:amn&skw

DOA:.....Humphry, BB0420 - Prevailing Wage

**FOR 2025-2027 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

**AN ACT ...; relating to:** the budget.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**EMPLOYMENT**

***Prevailing wage***

This bill requires that laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed on the site of certain projects of public works be paid the prevailing wage and not be required or allowed to work a greater number of hours per day and per week than the prevailing hours of labor unless they are paid overtime for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor. Projects subject to the bill include state and local projects of public works, including state highway projects, with exceptions including projects below certain cost thresholds, minor service or maintenance work, and certain residential projects. Under the bill, “prevailing wage rate” is defined as the hourly basic rate of pay, plus the hourly contribution for bona fide economic benefits, paid for a majority of the hours worked in a trade or occupation in the area in which the project is located, except that, if there is no rate at which a majority of those hours is paid, “prevailing wage rate” means the average hourly basic rate of pay, plus the average hourly contribution for bona fide economic benefits, paid for the highest-paid 51 percent of hours worked in a trade or occupation in the area. “Prevailing hours of labor” is defined as 10 hours per day and 40 hours per week, excluding weekends and holidays. The bill requires DWD to conduct investigations and hold public hearings as necessary to define the trades or occupations that are commonly employed on projects that are subject to the prevailing wage law and to inform itself of the prevailing wage rates in all areas of the state for those trades or occupations, in order to determine the prevailing wage rate for each trade or occupation. The bill contains certain other provisions regarding the calculation of prevailing wage rates by DWD, including provisions allowing persons to request recalculations or reviews of the prevailing wage rates determined by DWD.

The bill requires contracts and notices for bids for projects subject to the bill to include and incorporate provisions ensuring compliance with the requirements. The bill also establishes a requirement that state agencies and local governments post prevailing wage rates and hours of labor in areas readily accessible to persons employed on the project or in sites regularly used for posting notices.

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The bill makes a contractor that fails to pay the prevailing wage rate or overtime pay to an employee as required under the prevailing wage law liable to the affected employee for not only the amount of unpaid wages and overtime pay, but also for liquidated damages in an amount equal to 100 percent of the unpaid wages and overtime pay.

Finally, the bill includes, for both state and local projects of public works, provisions regarding coverage, compliance, enforcement, and penalties, including a) requirements for affidavits to be filed by contractors affirming compliance with the prevailing wage law; b) record retention requirements for contractors regarding wages paid to workers and provisions allowing for the inspection of those records by DWD; c) liability and penalty provisions for certain violations, including criminal penalties; and d) provisions prohibiting contracts from being awarded to persons who have failed to comply with the prevailing wage law.

**TRANSPORTATION****HIGHWAYS*****Transportation projects***

Under current law, for certain highway projects for which DOT spends federal money, federal money must make up at least 70 percent of the funding for those projects. DOT is required to notify political subdivisions receiving aid for local projects whether the aid includes federal moneys and how those moneys must be spent. For certain projects that receive no federal money, DOT may not require political subdivisions to comply with any portion of DOT's facilities development manual other than design standards. Any local project funded with state funds under the surface transportation program or the local bridge program must be let through competitive bidding and by contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The bill repeals all of these requirements.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

**SECTION 1.** 19.36 (12) of the statutes is created to read:

**19.36 (12) INFORMATION RELATING TO CERTAIN EMPLOYEES.** Unless access is specifically authorized or required by statute, an authority may not provide access

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to a record prepared or provided by an employer performing work on a project to which s. 66.0903, 103.49, or 103.50 applies, or on which the employer is otherwise required to pay prevailing wages, if that record contains the name or other personally identifiable information relating to an employee of that employer, unless the employee authorizes the authority to provide access to that information. In this subsection, “personally identifiable information” does not include an employee’s work classification, hours of work, or wage or benefit payments received for work on such a project.

**SECTION 2.** 66.0129 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

66.0129 (5) BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION. The nonprofit corporation shall let all contracts exceeding \$1,000 for the construction, maintenance or repair of hospital facilities to the lowest responsible bidder after advertising for bids by the publication of a class 2 notice under ch. 985. ~~Section~~ Sections 66.0901 ~~applies and~~ 66.0903 apply to bids and contracts under this subsection.

**SECTION 3.** 66.0903 (1) (a), (am), (b), (cm), (dr), (em), (hm) and (im) of the statutes are created to read:

66.0903 (1) (a) “Area” means the county in which a proposed project of public works that is subject to this section is located or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in that county, “area” means those counties that are contiguous to that county or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in those counties, “area” means those counties that are contiguous to those counties or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in those counties, “area” means the entire state or, if the department is requested to

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review a determination under sub. (3) (br), “area” means the city, village, or town in which a proposed project of public works that is subject to this section is located.

(am) “Bona fide economic benefit” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (am).

(b) “Department” means the department of workforce development.

(cm) “Insufficient wage data” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (bg).

(dr) “Minor service or maintenance work” means a project of public works that is limited to minor crack filling, chip or slurry sealing, or other minor pavement patching, not including overlays, that has a projected life span of no longer than 5 years or that is performed for a town and is not funded under s. 86.31, regardless of projected life span; the depositing of gravel on an existing gravel road applied solely to maintain the road; road shoulder maintenance; cleaning of drainage or sewer ditches or structures; or any other limited, minor work on public facilities or equipment that is routinely performed to prevent breakdown or deterioration.

(em) “Multiple-trade project of public works” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (br).

(hm) “Single-trade project of public works” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (em).

(im) “Supply and installation contract” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (fm).

**SECTION 4.** 66.0903 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

66.0903 (1) (c) “Hourly basic rate of pay” has the meaning given in s. ~~16.856~~  
103.49 (1) (b), ~~2015 stats.~~

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**SECTION 5.** 66.0903 (1) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

66.0903 (1) (f) “Prevailing hours of labor” has the meaning given in s. ~~16-856~~  
103.49 (1) (e), 2015 stats. (c).

**SECTION 6.** 66.0903 (1) (g) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

66.0903 (1) (g) “Prevailing wage rate” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1)  
(d).

**SECTION 7.** 66.0903 (1) (j) of the statutes is amended to read:

66.0903 (1) (j) “Truck driver” ~~includes an owner operator of a truck~~ has the  
meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (g).

**SECTION 8.** 66.0903 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

66.0903 (1m) (b) The legislature finds that the enactment of ordinances or other enactments by local governmental units requiring laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed on projects of public works or on publicly funded private construction projects to be paid the prevailing wage rate and to be paid at least 1.5 times their hourly basic rate of pay for hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor would be logically inconsistent with, would defeat the purpose of, and would go against the ~~repeals~~ spirit of this section and the repeal of s. 66.0904, 2009 stats., ~~and s. 66.0903 (2) to (12), 2013 stats.~~ Therefore, this section shall be construed as an enactment of statewide concern for the ~~purposes of facilitating broader participation with respect to bidding on projects of public works, ensuring that wages accurately reflect market conditions, providing local governments with the flexibility to reduce costs on capital projects, and reducing spending at all levels of government in this state~~ purpose of providing uniform

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prevailing wage rate and prevailing hours of labor requirements throughout the state.

**SECTION 9.** 66.0903 (2) to (12) of the statutes are created to read:

66.0903 (2) **APPLICABILITY.** Subject to sub. (5), this section applies to any project of public works erected, constructed, repaired, remodeled, or demolished for a local governmental unit, including all of the following:

(a) A highway, street, bridge, building, or other infrastructure project.

(b) A project erected, constructed, repaired, remodeled, or demolished by one local governmental unit for another local governmental unit under a contract under s. 66.0301 (2), 83.03, 83.035, or 86.31 (2) (b) or under any other statute specifically authorizing cooperation between local governmental units.

(c) A project in which the completed facility is leased, purchased, lease purchased, or otherwise acquired by, or dedicated to, a local governmental unit in lieu of the local governmental unit contracting for the erection, construction, repair, remodeling, or demolition of the facility.

(d) A road, street, bridge, sanitary sewer, or water main project in which the completed road, street, bridge, sanitary sewer, or water main is acquired by, or dedicated to, a local governmental unit, including under s. 236.13 (2), for ownership or maintenance by the local governmental unit.

(3) **PREVAILING WAGE RATES AND HOURS OF LABOR.** (am) A local governmental unit, before making a contract by direct negotiation or soliciting bids on a contract for the erection, construction, remodeling, repairing, or demolition of any project of public works, shall apply to the department to determine the prevailing wage rate

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for each trade or occupation required in the work contemplated. The department shall conduct investigations and hold public hearings as necessary to define the trades or occupations that are commonly employed on projects of public works that are subject to this section and to inform itself of the prevailing wage rates in all areas of the state for those trades or occupations, in order to determine the prevailing wage rate for each trade or occupation. The department shall issue its determination within 30 days after receiving the request and shall file the determination with the requesting local governmental unit.

(ar) The department shall, by January 1 of each year, compile the prevailing wage rates for each trade or occupation in each area. The compilation shall, in addition to the current prevailing wage rates, include future prevailing wage rates when those prevailing wage rates can be determined for any trade or occupation in any area and shall specify the effective date of those future prevailing wage rates. If a project of public works extends into more than one area, the department shall determine only one standard of prevailing wage rates for the entire project.

(av) In determining prevailing wage rates under par. (am) or (ar), the department may not use data from projects that are subject to this section, s. 103.49 or 103.50, or [40 USC 3142](#) unless the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in the area to determine those prevailing wage rates, in which case the department may use data from projects that are subject to this section, s. 103.49 or 103.50, or [40 USC 3142](#). In determining prevailing wage rates under par. (am) or (ar), the department may not use data from any construction work that is performed by a local governmental unit or a state agency.

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(bm) Any person may request a recalculation of any portion of an initial determination within 30 days after the initial determination date if the person submits evidence with the request showing that the prevailing wage rate for any given trade or occupation included in the initial determination does not represent the prevailing wage rate for that trade or occupation in the area. The evidence shall include wage rate information reflecting work performed by individuals working in the contested trade or occupation in the area during the current survey period. The department shall affirm or modify the initial determination within 15 days after the date on which the department receives the request for recalculation.

(br) In addition to the recalculation under par. (bm), the local governmental unit that requested the determination under this subsection may request a review of any portion of a determination within 30 days after the date of issuance of the determination if the local governmental unit submits evidence with the request showing that the prevailing wage rate for any given trade or occupation included in the determination does not represent the prevailing wage rate for that trade or occupation in the city, village, or town in which the proposed project of public works is located. That evidence shall include wage rate information for the contested trade or occupation on at least 3 similar projects located in the city, village, or town where the proposed project of public works is located and on which some work has been performed during the current survey period and which were considered by the department in issuing its most recent compilation under par. (ar). The department shall affirm or modify the determination within 15 days after the date on which the department receives the request for review.



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(dm) A local governmental unit that is subject to this section shall include a reference to the prevailing wage rates determined by the department and to the prevailing hours of labor in the notice published for the purpose of securing bids for the project of public works. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, if any contract or subcontract for a project of public works is entered into, the prevailing wage rates determined by the department and the prevailing hours of labor shall be physically incorporated into and made a part of the contract or subcontract. For a minor subcontract, as determined by the department, the department shall prescribe by rule the method of notifying the minor subcontractor of the prevailing wage rates and prevailing hours of labor applicable to the minor subcontract. The prevailing wage rates and prevailing hours of labor applicable to a contract or subcontract may not be changed during the time that the contract or subcontract is in force.

(e) No contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent that is subject to this section may do any of the following:

1. Pay an individual performing the work described in sub. (4) less than the prevailing wage rate in the same or most similar trade or occupation determined under this subsection.

2. Allow an individual performing the work described in sub. (4) to work a greater number of hours per day or per week than the prevailing hours of labor, unless the contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent pays the individual for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at a rate of at least 1.5 times the individual's hourly basic rate of pay.

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(4) COVERED EMPLOYEES. (a) Subject to par. (b), any person subject to this section shall pay all of the following employees the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) and may not allow such employees to work a greater number of hours per day or per week than the prevailing hours of labor, unless the person pays the employee for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at a rate of at least 1.5 times the employee's hourly basic rate of pay:

1. All laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed on the site of a project of public works that is subject to this section.

2. All laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed in the manufacturing or furnishing of materials, articles, supplies, or equipment on the site of a project of public works that is subject to this section or from a facility dedicated exclusively, or nearly so, to a project of public works that is subject to this section by a contractor, subcontractor, agent, or other person performing any work on the site of the project.

(b) A laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver who is employed to process, manufacture, pick up, or deliver materials or products from a commercial establishment that has a fixed place of business from which the establishment supplies processed or manufactured materials or products or from a facility that is not dedicated exclusively, or nearly so, to a project of public works that is subject to this section is not entitled to receive the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or to receive at least 1.5 times his or her hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor unless any of the following applies:

1. The laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver is employed to go to the

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source of mineral aggregate such as sand, gravel, or stone and deliver that mineral aggregate to the site of a project of public works that is subject to this section by depositing the material directly in final place, from the transporting vehicle or through spreaders from the transporting vehicle.

2. The laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver is employed to go to the site of a project of public works that is subject to this section, pick up excavated material or spoil from the site of the project, and transport that excavated material or spoil away from the site of the project.

(c) A person subject to this section shall pay a truck driver who is an owner-operator of a truck separately for his or her work and for the use of his or her truck.

**(5) NONAPPLICABILITY.** This section does not apply to any of the following:

(a) A single-trade project of public works for which the estimated project cost of completion is less than \$48,000, a multiple-trade project of public works for which the estimated project cost of completion is less than \$100,000, or, in the case of a multiple-trade project of public works erected, constructed, repaired, remodeled, or demolished by a private contractor for a city or village having a population of less than 2,500 or for a town, a multiple-trade project of public works for which the estimated project cost of completion is less than \$234,000.

(b) Work performed on a project of public works for which the local governmental unit contracting for the project is not required to compensate any contractor, subcontractor, contractor's or subcontractor's agent, or individual for performing the work.

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(c) Minor service or maintenance work, warranty work, or work under a supply and installation contract.

(f) A project of public works involving the erection, construction, repair, remodeling, or demolition of a residential property containing 2 dwelling units or less.

(g) A road, street, bridge, sanitary sewer, or water main project that is a part of a development in which not less than 90 percent of the lots contain or will contain 2 dwelling units or less, as determined by the local governmental unit at the time of approval of the development, and that, on completion, is acquired by, or dedicated to, a local governmental unit, including under s. 236.13 (2), for ownership or maintenance by the local governmental unit.

**(8) POSTING.** A local governmental unit that has contracted for a project of public works shall post the prevailing wage rates determined by the department, the prevailing hours of labor, and the provisions of subs. (10) (a) and (11) (a) in at least one conspicuous place on the site of the project that is easily accessible by employees working on the project, or, if there is no common site on the project, at the place normally used by the local governmental unit to post public notices.

**(9) COMPLIANCE.** (a) When the department finds that a local governmental unit has not requested a determination under sub. (3) (am) or that a local governmental unit, contractor, or subcontractor has not physically incorporated a determination into a contract or subcontract as required under this section or has not notified a minor subcontractor of a determination in the manner prescribed by the department by rule promulgated under sub. (3) (dm), the department shall

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notify the local governmental unit, contractor, or subcontractor of the noncompliance and shall file the determination with the local governmental unit, contractor, or subcontractor within 30 days after the notice.

(b) Upon completion of a project of public works and before receiving final payment for his or her work on the project, each agent or subcontractor shall furnish the contractor with an affidavit stating that the agent or subcontractor has complied fully with the requirements of this section. A contractor may not authorize final payment until the affidavit is filed in proper form and order.

(c) Upon completion of a project of public works and before receiving final payment for his or her work on the project, each contractor shall file with the local governmental unit authorizing the work an affidavit stating that the contractor has complied fully with the requirements of this section and that the contractor has received an affidavit under par. (b) from each of the contractor's agents and subcontractors. A local governmental unit may not authorize a final payment until the affidavit is filed in proper form and order. If a local governmental unit authorizes a final payment before an affidavit is filed in proper form and order or if the department determines, based on the greater weight of the credible evidence, that any person performing the work specified in sub. (4) has been or may have been paid less than the prevailing wage rate or less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor and requests that the local governmental unit withhold all or part of the final payment, but the local governmental unit fails to do so, the local governmental unit is liable for all back wages payable up to the amount of the final payment.

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(10) RECORDS; INSPECTION; ENFORCEMENT. (a) Each contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent that performs work on a project of public works that is subject to this section shall keep full and accurate records clearly indicating the name and trade or occupation of every individual performing the work described in sub. (4) and an accurate record of the number of hours worked by each of those individuals and the actual wages paid for the hours worked.

(b) The department or the contracting local governmental unit may demand and examine, and every contractor, subcontractor, and contractor's or subcontractor's agent shall keep, and furnish upon request by the department or local governmental unit, copies of payrolls and other records and information relating to the wages paid to individuals performing the work described in sub. (4) for work to which this section applies. The department may inspect records in the manner provided in ch. 103. Every contractor, subcontractor, or agent performing work on a project of public works that is subject to this section is subject to the requirements of ch. 103 relating to the examination of records.

(c) If requested by any person, the department shall inspect the payroll records of any contractor, subcontractor, or agent performing work on a project of public works that is subject to this section as provided in this paragraph to ensure compliance with this section. On receipt of such a request, the department shall request that the contractor, subcontractor, or agent submit to the department a certified record of the information specified in par. (a), other than personally identifiable information relating to an employee of the contractor, subcontractor, or

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agent, for no longer than a 4-week period. The department may request that a contractor, subcontractor, or agent submit those records no more than once per calendar quarter for each project of public works on which the contractor, subcontractor, or agent is performing work. The department may not charge a requester a fee for obtaining that information. Certified records submitted to the department under this paragraph are open for public inspection and copying under s. 19.35 (1).

(d) Section 103.005 (5) (f), (11), (12), and (13) applies to this section, except that s. 103.005 (12) (a) does not apply to a person who fails to provide any information to the department to assist the department in determining prevailing wage rates under sub. (3) (am) or (ar). Section 111.322 (2m) applies to discharge and other discriminatory acts arising in connection with any proceeding under this section, including proceedings under sub. (11) (a).

**(11) LIABILITY AND PENALTIES.** (a) 1. A contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent who fails to pay the prevailing wage rate determined by the department under sub. (3) or who pays less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor is liable to any affected employee in the amount of his or her unpaid wages or his or her unpaid overtime compensation and in an additional amount as liquidated damages as provided under subd. 2. or 3., whichever is applicable.

2. If the department determines upon inspection under sub. (10) (b) or (c) that a contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent has failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined by the department under sub. (3) or has

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paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor, the department shall order the contractor to pay to any affected employee the amount of his or her unpaid wages or his or her unpaid overtime compensation and an additional amount equal to 100 percent of the amount of those unpaid wages or that unpaid overtime compensation as liquidated damages within a period specified by the department in the order.

3. In addition to or in lieu of recovering the liability specified in subd. 1. as provided in subd. 2., any employee for and on behalf of that employee and other employees similarly situated may commence an action to recover that liability in any court of competent jurisdiction. If the court finds that a contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent has failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined by the department under sub. (3) or has paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor, the court shall order the contractor, subcontractor, or agent to pay to any affected employee the amount of his or her unpaid wages or his or her unpaid overtime compensation and an additional amount equal to 100 percent of the amount of those unpaid wages or that unpaid overtime compensation as liquidated damages.

5. No employee may be a party plaintiff to an action under subd. 3. unless the employee consents in writing to become a party and the consent is filed in the court in which the action is brought. Notwithstanding s. 814.04 (1), the court shall, in addition to any judgment awarded to the plaintiff, allow reasonable attorney fees and costs to be paid by the defendant.



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(b) 1. Except as provided in subds. 2., 4., and 6., any contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent who violates this section may be fined not more than \$200 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both. Each day that any violation continues is a separate offense.

2. Whoever induces any individual who seeks to be or is employed on any project of public works that is subject to this section to give up, waive, or return any part of the wages to which the individual is entitled under the contract governing the project, or who reduces the hourly basic rate of pay normally paid to an individual for work on a project that is not subject to this section during a week in which the individual works both on a project of public works that is subject to this section and on a project that is not subject to this section, by threat not to employ, by threat of dismissal from employment, or by any other means is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (1).

3. Any individual employed on a project of public works that is subject to this section who knowingly allows a contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent to pay him or her less than the prevailing wage rate set forth in the contract governing the project, who gives up, waives, or returns any part of the compensation to which he or she is entitled under the contract, or who gives up, waives, or returns any part of the compensation to which he or she is normally entitled for work on a project that is not subject to this section during a week in which the individual works both on a project of public works that is subject to this section and on a project that is not subject to this section, is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (2).

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4. Whoever induces any individual who seeks to be or is employed on any project of public works that is subject to this section to allow any part of the wages to which the individual is entitled under the contract governing the project to be deducted from the individual's pay is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (3), unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

5. Any individual who is employed on a project of public works that is subject to this section who knowingly allows any part of the wages to which he or she is entitled under the contract governing the project to be deducted from his or her pay is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (4), unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

6. Subdivision 1. does not apply to any person who fails to provide any information to the department to assist the department in determining prevailing wage rates under sub. (3) (am) or (ar).

**(12) DEPARTMENT.** (a) Except as provided under pars. (b) and (c), the department shall notify any local governmental unit applying for a determination under sub. (3) of the names of all persons that the department has found to have failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or has found to have paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at any time in the preceding 3 years. The department shall include with each name the address of the person and shall specify when the person failed to pay the prevailing wage rate and when the person

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paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor. A local governmental unit may not award any contract to the person unless otherwise recommended by the department or unless 3 years have elapsed from the date the department issued its findings or the date of final determination by a court of competent jurisdiction, whichever is later.

(b) The department may not include in a notification under par. (a) the name of any person on the basis of having subcontracted a contract for a project of public works to a person that the department has found to have failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or has found to have paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor.

(c) This subsection does not apply to any contractor, subcontractor, or agent who in good faith commits a minor violation of this section, as determined on a case-by-case basis through administrative hearings with all rights to due process afforded to all parties or who has not exhausted or waived all appeals.

(d) Any person submitting a bid or negotiating a contract on a project of public works that is subject to this section shall, on the date the person submits the bid or negotiates the contract, identify any construction business in which the person, or a shareholder, officer, or partner of the person, if the person is a business, owns, or has owned at least a 25 percent interest on the date the person submits the bid or negotiates the contract or at any other time within 3 years preceding the date the person submits the bid or negotiates the contract, if the business has been found to have failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or to have

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paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor.

(e) The department shall promulgate rules to administer this subsection.

**SECTION 10.** 84.41 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

84.41 (3) EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS. Employment regulations set forth in s. 103.50 pertaining to wages and hours shall apply to all projects constructed under s. 84.40 in the same manner as such laws apply to projects on other state highways. Where applicable, the federal wages and hours law known as the Davis-Bacon act shall apply.

**SECTION 11.** 84.54 of the statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 12.** 86.51 of the statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 13.** 103.005 (12) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

103.005 (12) (a) If any employer, employee, owner, or other person violates chs. 103 to 106, or fails or refuses to perform any duty required under chs. 103 to 106, within the time prescribed by the department, for which no penalty has been specifically provided, or fails, neglects or refuses to obey any lawful order given or made by the department or any judgment or decree made by any court in connection with chs. 103 to 106, for each such violation, failure or refusal, the employer, employee, owner or other person shall forfeit not less than \$10 nor more than \$100 for each offense. This paragraph does not apply to any person that fails to provide any information to the department to assist the department in determining prevailing wage rates or prevailing hours of labor under s. 103.49 (3) (a) or (am) or 103.50 (3) or (4).

**BILL****SECTION 14**

**SECTION 14.** 103.49 of the statutes is created to read:

**103.49 Wage rate on state work. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Area” means the county in which a proposed project of public works that is subject to this section is located or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in that county, “area” means those counties that are contiguous to that county or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in those counties, “area” means those counties that are contiguous to those counties or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in those counties, “area” means the entire state or, if the department is requested to review a determination under sub. (3) (c), “area” means the city, village, or town in which a proposed project of public works that is subject to this section is located.

(am) “Bona fide economic benefit” means an economic benefit for which an employer makes irrevocable contributions to a trust or fund created under [29 USC 186](#) (c) or to any other bona fide plan, trust, program, or fund no less often than quarterly or, if an employer makes annual contributions to such a bona fide plan, trust, program, or fund, for which the employer irrevocably escrows moneys at least quarterly based on the employer’s expected annual contribution.

(b) “Hourly basic rate of pay” means the hourly wage paid to any employee, excluding any contributions or payments for health insurance benefits, vacation benefits, pension benefits, and any other bona fide economic benefits, whether paid directly or indirectly.

(bg) “Insufficient wage data” means less than 500 hours of work performed in

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a particular trade or occupation on projects that are similar to a proposed project of public works that is subject to this section.

(bj) “Minor service or maintenance work” means a project of public works that is limited to minor crack filling, chip or slurry sealing, or other minor pavement patching, not including overlays, that has a projected life span of no longer than 5 years; cleaning of drainage or sewer ditches or structures; or any other limited, minor work on public facilities or equipment that is routinely performed to prevent breakdown or deterioration.

(br) “Multiple-trade project of public works” means a project of public works in which no single trade accounts for 85 percent or more of the total labor cost of the project.

(c) “Prevailing hours of labor” for any trade or occupation in any area means 10 hours per day and 40 hours per week and may not include any hours worked on a Saturday or Sunday or on any of the following holidays:

1. January 1.
2. The last Monday in May.
3. July 4.
4. The first Monday in September.
5. The 4th Thursday in November.
6. December 25.
7. The day before if January 1, July 4, or December 25 falls on a Saturday.
8. The day following if January 1, July 4, or December 25 falls on a Sunday.

(d) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., “prevailing wage rate” for any trade or

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occupation engaged in the erection, construction, remodeling, repairing, or demolition of any project of public works in any area means the hourly basic rate of pay, plus the hourly contribution for health insurance benefits, vacation benefits, pension benefits, and any other bona fide economic benefit, paid directly or indirectly for a majority of the hours worked in the trade or occupation on projects in the area.

2. If there is no rate at which a majority of the hours worked in the trade or occupation on projects in the area is paid, “prevailing wage rate” for any trade or occupation engaged in the erection, construction, remodeling, repairing, or demolition of any project of public works in any area means the average hourly basic rate of pay, weighted by the number of hours worked, plus the average hourly contribution, weighted by the number of hours worked, for health insurance benefits, vacation benefits, pension benefits, and any other bona fide economic benefit, paid directly or indirectly for all hours worked at the hourly basic rate of pay of the highest-paid 51 percent of hours worked in that trade or occupation on projects in that area.

(em) “Single-trade project of public works” means a project of public works in which a single trade accounts for 85 percent or more of the total labor cost of the project.

(f) “State agency” means any office, department, independent agency, institution of higher education, association, society, or other body in state government created or authorized to be created by the constitution or any law, including the legislature and the courts. “State agency” also includes the

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University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority, the Fox River Navigational System Authority, and the Wisconsin Aerospace Authority.

(fm) “Supply and installation contract” means a contract under which the material is installed by the supplier, the material is installed by means of simple fasteners or connectors such as screws or nuts and bolts, and no other work is performed on the site of the project of public works, and the total labor cost to install the material does not exceed 20 percent of the total cost of the contract.

(g) “Truck driver” includes an owner-operator of a truck.

**(1m)** APPLICABILITY. Subject to sub. (3g), this section applies to any project of public works erected, constructed, repaired, remodeled, or demolished for the state or a state agency, including all of the following:

(a) A project erected, constructed, repaired, remodeled, or demolished by one state agency for another state agency under any contract or under any statute specifically authorizing cooperation between state agencies.

(b) A project in which the completed facility is leased, purchased, lease purchased, or otherwise acquired by, or dedicated to, the state in lieu of the state or a state agency contracting for the erection, construction, repair, remodeling, or demolition of the facility.

(c) A sanitary sewer or water main project in which the completed sanitary sewer or water main is acquired by, or dedicated to, the state for ownership or maintenance by the state.

**(2)** PREVAILING WAGE RATES AND HOURS OF LABOR. Any contract made for the erection, construction, remodeling, repairing, or demolition of any project of public



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works to which the state or any state agency is a party shall contain a stipulation that no individual performing the work described in sub. (2m) may be allowed to work a greater number of hours per day or per week than the prevailing hours of labor, except that any such individual may be allowed or required to work more than such prevailing hours of labor per day and per week if he or she is paid for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at a rate of at least 1.5 times his or her hourly basic rate of pay; nor may he or she be paid less than the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) in the same or most similar trade or occupation in the area in which the project of public works is situated. The notice published for the purpose of securing bids for the project must contain a reference to the prevailing wage rates determined under sub. (3) and the prevailing hours of labor. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if any contract or subcontract for a project of public works that is subject to this section is entered into, the prevailing wage rates determined under sub. (3) and the prevailing hours of labor shall be physically incorporated into and made a part of the contract or subcontract. For a minor subcontract, as determined by the department, the department shall prescribe by rule the method of notifying the minor subcontractor of the prevailing wage rates and prevailing hours of labor applicable to the minor subcontract. The prevailing wage rates and prevailing hours of labor applicable to a contract or subcontract may not be changed during the time that the contract or subcontract is in force.

**(2m) COVERED EMPLOYEES.** (a) Subject to par. (b), any person subject to this section shall pay all of the following employees the prevailing wage rate determined

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under sub. (3) and may not allow such employees to work a greater number of hours per day or per week than the prevailing hours of labor, unless the person pays for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at a rate of at least 1.5 times the employees' hourly basic rate of pay:

1. All laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed on the site of a project of public works that is subject to this section.

2. All laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed in the manufacturing or furnishing of materials, articles, supplies, or equipment on the site of a project of public works that is subject to this section or from a facility dedicated exclusively, or nearly so, to a project of public works that is subject to this section by a contractor, subcontractor, agent, or other person performing any work on the site of the project.

(b) A laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver who is employed to process, manufacture, pick up, or deliver materials or products from a commercial establishment that has a fixed place of business from which the establishment supplies processed or manufactured materials or products or from a facility that is not dedicated exclusively, or nearly so, to a project of public works that is subject to this section is not entitled to receive the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or to receive at least 1.5 times his or her hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor unless any of the following applies:

1. The laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver is employed to go to the source of mineral aggregate such as sand, gravel, or stone and deliver that mineral aggregate to the site of a project of public works that is subject to this section by

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depositing the material directly in final place, from the transporting vehicle or through spreaders from the transporting vehicle.

2. The laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver is employed to go to the site of a project that is subject to this section, pick up excavated material or spoil from the site of the project of public works, and transport that excavated material or spoil away from the site of the project.

(c) A person that is subject to this section shall pay a truck driver who is an owner-operator of a truck separately for his or her work and for the use of his or her truck.

**(3) INVESTIGATION; DETERMINATION.** (a) Before a state agency issues a request for bids for any work to which this section applies, the state agency having the authority to prescribe the specifications shall apply to the department to determine the prevailing wage rate for each trade or occupation required in the work under contemplation in the area in which the work is to be done. The department shall conduct investigations and hold public hearings as necessary to define the trades or occupations that are commonly employed on projects that are subject to this section and to inform itself of the prevailing wage rates in all areas of the state for those trades or occupations, in order to determine the prevailing wage rate for each trade or occupation. The department shall issue its determination within 30 days after receiving the request and shall file the determination with the requesting state agency. A state agency that has contracted for a project of public works subject to this section shall post the prevailing wage rates determined by the department, the prevailing hours of labor, and the provisions of subs. (2) and (6m)

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in at least one conspicuous place on the site of the project that is easily accessible by employees working on the project.

(am) The department shall, by January 1 of each year, compile the prevailing wage rates for each trade or occupation in each area. The compilation shall, in addition to the current prevailing wage rates, include future prevailing wage rates when those prevailing wage rates can be determined for any trade or occupation in any area and shall specify the effective date of those future prevailing wage rates. If a project of public works extends into more than one area, the department shall determine only one standard of prevailing wage rates for the entire project.

(ar) In determining prevailing wage rates under par. (a) or (am), the department may not use data from projects that are subject to this section, s. 66.0903, 103.50, or 229.8275, or [40 USC 3142](#) unless the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in the area to determine those prevailing wage rates, in which case the department may use data from projects that are subject to this section, s. 66.0903, 103.50, or 229.8275, or [40 USC 3142](#). In determining prevailing wage rates under par. (a) or (am), the department may not use data from any construction work performed by a state agency or a local governmental unit, as defined in s. 66.0903 (1) (d).

(b) Any person may request a recalculation of any portion of an initial determination within 30 days after the initial determination date if the person submits evidence with the request showing that the prevailing wage rate for any given trade or occupation included in the initial determination does not represent the prevailing wage rate for that trade or occupation in the area. The evidence shall

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include wage rate information reflecting work performed by individuals working in the contested trade or occupation in the area during the current survey period. The department shall affirm or modify the initial determination within 15 days after the date on which the department receives the request for recalculation.

(c) In addition to the recalculation under par. (b), the state agency that requested the determination under this subsection may request a review of any portion of a determination within 30 days after the date of issuance of the determination if the state agency submits evidence with the request showing that the prevailing wage rate for any given trade or occupation included in the determination does not represent the prevailing wage rate for that trade or occupation in the city, village, or town in which the proposed project of public works is located. That evidence shall include wage rate information for the contested trade or occupation on at least 3 similar projects located in the city, village, or town where the proposed project of public works is located on which some work has been performed during the current survey period and that were considered by the department in issuing its most recent compilation under par. (am). The department shall affirm or modify the determination within 15 days after the date on which the department receives the request for review.

**(3g) NONAPPLICABILITY.** This section does not apply to any of the following:

(a) A single-trade project of public works for which the estimated project cost of completion is less than \$48,000 or a multiple-trade project of public works for which the estimated project cost of completion is less than \$100,000.

(b) Work performed on a project of public works for which the state or the state

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agency contracting for the project is not required to compensate any contractor, subcontractor, contractor's or subcontractor's agent, or individual for performing the work.

(e) Minor service or maintenance work, warranty work, or work under a supply and installation contract.

(f) A public highway, street, or bridge project.

(g) A project of public works involving the erection, construction, repair, remodeling, or demolition of a residential property containing 2 dwelling units or less.

(h) A road, street, bridge, sanitary sewer, or water main project that is a part of a development in which not less than 90 percent of the lots contain or will contain 2 dwelling units or less, as determined by the local governmental unit at the time of approval of the development, and that, on completion, is acquired by, or dedicated to, the state for ownership or maintenance by the state.

**(4r) COMPLIANCE.** (a) When the department finds that a state agency has not requested a determination under sub. (3) (a) or that a state agency, contractor, or subcontractor has not physically incorporated a determination into a contract or subcontract as required under sub. (2) or has not notified a minor subcontractor of a determination in the manner prescribed by the department by rule promulgated under sub. (2), the department shall notify the state agency, contractor, or subcontractor of the noncompliance and shall file the determination with the state agency, contractor, or subcontractor within 30 days after the notice.

(b) Upon completion of a project of public works and before receiving final

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payment for his or her work on the project, each agent or subcontractor shall furnish the contractor with an affidavit stating that the agent or subcontractor has complied fully with the requirements of this section. A contractor may not authorize final payment until the affidavit is filed in proper form and order.

(c) Upon completion of a project of public works and before receiving final payment for his or her work on the project, each contractor shall file with the state agency authorizing the work an affidavit stating that the contractor has complied fully with the requirements of this section and that the contractor has received an affidavit under par. (b) from each of the contractor's agents and subcontractors. A state agency may not authorize a final payment until the affidavit is filed in proper form and order. If a state agency authorizes a final payment before an affidavit is filed in proper form and order or if the department determines, based on the greater weight of the credible evidence, that any person performing the work specified in sub. (2m) has been or may have been paid less than the prevailing wage rate or less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor and requests that the state agency withhold all or part of the final payment, but the state agency fails to do so, the state agency is liable for all back wages payable up to the amount of the final payment.

**(5) RECORDS; INSPECTION; ENFORCEMENT.** (a) Each contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent that performs work on a project of public works that is subject to this section shall keep full and accurate records clearly indicating the name and trade or occupation of every individual performing the

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work described in sub. (2m) and an accurate record of the number of hours worked by each of those individuals and the actual wages paid for the hours worked.

(b) The department shall enforce this section. The department may demand and examine, and every contractor, subcontractor, and contractor's and subcontractor's agent shall keep, and furnish upon request by the department, copies of payrolls and other records and information relating to the wages paid to individuals performing the work described in sub. (2m) for work to which this section applies. The department may inspect records in the manner provided in this chapter. Every contractor, subcontractor, or agent performing work on a project of public works that is subject to this section is subject to the requirements of this chapter relating to the examination of records. Section 111.322 (2m) applies to discharge and other discriminatory acts arising in connection with any proceeding under this section.

(c) If requested by any person, the department shall inspect the payroll records of any contractor, subcontractor, or agent performing work on a project of public works that is subject to this section as provided in this paragraph to ensure compliance with this section. On receipt of such a request, the department shall request that the contractor, subcontractor, or agent submit to the department a certified record of the information specified in par. (a), other than personally identifiable information relating to an employee of the contractor, subcontractor, or agent, for no longer than a 4-week period. The department may request a contractor, subcontractor, or agent to submit those records no more than once per calendar quarter for each project of public works on which the contractor,



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subcontractor, or agent is performing work. The department may not charge a requester a fee for obtaining that information. Certified records submitted to the department under this paragraph are open for public inspection and copying under s. 19.35 (1).

**(6m)** LIABILITY AND PENALTIES. (ag) 1. A contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent who fails to pay the prevailing wage rate determined by the department under sub. (3) or who pays less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor is liable to any affected employee in the amount of his or her unpaid wages or his or her unpaid overtime compensation and in an additional amount as liquidated damages as provided in subd. 2. or 3., whichever is applicable.

2. If the department determines upon inspection under sub. (5) (b) or (c) that a contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent has failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined by the department under sub. (3) or has paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor, the department shall order the contractor to pay to any affected employee the amount of his or her unpaid wages or his or her unpaid overtime compensation and an additional amount equal to 100 percent of the amount of those unpaid wages or that unpaid overtime compensation as liquidated damages within a period specified by the department in the order.

3. In addition to or in lieu of recovering the liability specified in subd. 1. as provided in subd. 2., any employee for and on behalf of that employee and other employees similarly situated may commence an action to recover that liability in

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any court of competent jurisdiction. If the court finds that a contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent has failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined by the department under sub. (3) or has paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor, the court shall order the contractor, subcontractor, or agent to pay to any affected employee the amount of his or her unpaid wages or his or her unpaid overtime compensation and an additional amount equal to 100 percent of the amount of those unpaid wages or that unpaid overtime compensation as liquidated damages.

5. No employee may be a party plaintiff to an action under subd. 3. unless the employee consents in writing to become a party and the consent is filed in the court in which the action is brought. Notwithstanding s. 814.04 (1), the court shall, in addition to any judgment awarded to the plaintiff, allow reasonable attorney fees and costs to be paid by the defendant.

(am) Except as provided in pars. (b), (d), and (f), any contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent who violates this section may be fined not more than \$200 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both. Each day that a violation continues is a separate offense.

(b) Whoever induces an individual who seeks to be or is employed on any project of public works that is subject to this section to give up, waive, or return any part of the wages to which the individual is entitled under the contract governing the project, or who reduces the hourly basic rate of pay normally paid to an individual for work on a project that is not subject to this section during a week in

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which the individual works both on a project of public works that is subject to this section and on a project that is not subject to this section, by threat not to employ, by threat of dismissal from employment, or by any other means is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (1).

(c) Any individual who is employed on a project of public works that is subject to this section who knowingly allows a contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent to pay him or her less than the prevailing wage rate set forth in the contract governing the project, who gives up, waives, or returns any part of the compensation to which he or she is entitled under the contract, or who gives up, waives, or returns any part of the compensation to which he or she is normally entitled for work on a project that is not subject to this section during a week in which the individual works both on a project of public works that is subject to this section and on a project that is not subject to this section, is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (2).

(d) Whoever induces any individual who seeks to be or is employed on any project of public works that is subject to this section to allow any part of the wages to which the individual is entitled under the contract governing the project to be deducted from the individual's pay is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (3), unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

(e) Any individual who is employed on a project of public works that is subject to this section who knowingly allows any part of the wages to which he or she is entitled under the contract governing the project to be deducted from his or her pay

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is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (4), unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

(f) Paragraph (am) does not apply to any person who fails to provide any information to the department to assist the department in determining prevailing wage rates under sub. (3) (a) or (am).

(7) DEBARMENT. (a) Except as provided under pars. (b) and (c), the department shall distribute to all state agencies a list of all persons that the department has found to have failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or has found to have paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at any time in the preceding 3 years. The department shall include with any name the address of the person and shall specify when the person failed to pay the prevailing wage rate and when the person paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor. A state agency may not award any contract to the person unless otherwise recommended by the department or unless 3 years have elapsed from the date the department issued its findings or date of final determination by a court of competent jurisdiction, whichever is later.

(b) The department may not include in a notification under par. (a) the name of any person on the basis of having subcontracted a contract for a project of public works to a person that the department has found to have failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or has found to have paid less than 1.5 times

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the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor.

(c) This subsection does not apply to any contractor, subcontractor, or agent who in good faith commits a minor violation of this section, as determined on a case-by-case basis through administrative hearings with all rights to due process afforded to all parties or who has not exhausted or waived all appeals.

(d) Any person submitting a bid on a project of public works that is subject to this section shall, on the date the person submits the bid, identify any construction business in which the person, or a shareholder, officer, or partner of the person if the person is a business, owns or has owned at least a 25 percent interest on the date the person submits the bid or at any other time within 3 years preceding the date the person submits the bid, if the business has been found to have failed to pay the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or to have paid less than 1.5 times the hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor.

(e) The department shall promulgate rules to administer this subsection.

**SECTION 15.** 103.50 of the statutes is created to read:

**103.50 Highway contracts. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) “Area” means the county in which a proposed project that is subject to this section is located or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in that county, “area” means those counties that are contiguous to that county or, if the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in those counties, “area” means those counties that are contiguous to those counties or, if

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the department determines that there is insufficient wage data in those counties, “area” means the entire state.

(b) “Hourly basic rate of pay” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (b).

(bg) “Insufficient wage data” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (bg).

(c) “Prevailing hours of labor” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (c).

(d) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., “prevailing wage rate” for any trade or occupation in any area means the hourly basic rate of pay, plus the hourly contribution for health insurance benefits, vacation benefits, pension benefits, and any other bona fide economic benefit, paid directly or indirectly, for a majority of the hours worked in the trade or occupation in the area.

2. If there is no rate at which a majority of the hours worked in the trade or occupation in the area is paid, “prevailing wage rate” means the average hourly basic rate of pay, weighted by the number of hours worked, plus the average hourly contribution, weighted by the number of hours worked, for health insurance benefits, vacation benefits, pension benefits, and any other bona fide economic benefit, paid directly or indirectly for all hours worked at the hourly basic rate of pay of the highest-paid 51 percent of hours worked in that trade or occupation in that area.

(e) “Truck driver” has the meaning given in s. 103.49 (1) (g).

(2) PREVAILING WAGE RATES AND HOURS OF LABOR. No contractor, subcontractor, agent, or other person performing any work on a project under a contract based on bids as provided in s. 84.06 (2) to which the state is a party for the construction or improvement of any highway may do any of the following:

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(a) Pay an individual performing the work described in sub. (2m) less than the prevailing wage rate in the area in which the work is to be done determined under sub. (3).

(b) Allow an individual performing the work described in sub. (2m) to work a greater number of hours per day or per week than the prevailing hours of labor, unless the contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent pays the individual for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at a rate of at least 1.5 times the individual's hourly basic rate of pay.

**(2g) NONAPPLICABILITY.** This section does not apply to a single-trade project of public works, as defined in s. 103.49 (1) (em), for which the estimated project cost of completion is less than \$48,000 or a multiple-trade project of public works, as defined in s. 103.49 (1) (br), for which the estimated project cost of completion is less than \$100,000.

**(2m) COVERED EMPLOYEES.** (a) Subject to par. (b), any person subject to this section shall pay all of the following employees the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) and may not allow such employees to work a greater number of hours per day or per week than the prevailing hours of labor, unless the person pays for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor at a rate of at least 1.5 times the employees' hourly basic rate of pay:

1. All laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed on the site of a project that is subject to this section.

2. All laborers, workers, mechanics, and truck drivers employed in the manufacturing or furnishing of materials, articles, supplies, or equipment on the

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site of a project that is subject to this section or from a facility dedicated exclusively, or nearly so, to a project that is subject to this section by a contractor, subcontractor, agent, or other person performing any work on the site of the project.

(b) A laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver who is employed to process, manufacture, pick up, or deliver materials or products from a commercial establishment that has a fixed place of business from which the establishment supplies processed or manufactured materials or products or from a facility that is not dedicated exclusively, or nearly so, to a project that is subject to this section is not entitled to receive the prevailing wage rate determined under sub. (3) or to receive at least 1.5 times his or her hourly basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the prevailing hours of labor unless any of the following applies:

1. The laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver is employed to go to the source of mineral aggregate such as sand, gravel, or stone and deliver that mineral aggregate to the site of a project that is subject to this section by depositing the material directly in final place, from the transporting vehicle or through spreaders from the transporting vehicle.

2. The laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver is employed to go to the site of a project that is subject to this section, pick up excavated material or spoil from the site of the project, and transport that excavated material or spoil away from the site of the project and return to the site of the project.

(c) A contractor, subcontractor, agent, or other person performing work on a project subject to this section shall pay a truck driver who is an owner-operator of a truck separately for his or her work and for the use of his or her truck.



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(3) INVESTIGATIONS; DETERMINATIONS. The department shall conduct investigations and hold public hearings necessary to define the trades or occupations that are commonly employed in the highway construction industry and to inform the department of the prevailing wage rates in all areas of the state for those trades or occupations, in order to ascertain and determine the prevailing wage rates accordingly.

(4) CERTIFICATION OF PREVAILING WAGE RATES. The department of workforce development shall, by May 1 of each year, certify to the department of transportation the prevailing wage rates in each area for all trades or occupations commonly employed in the highway construction industry. The certification shall, in addition to the current prevailing wage rates, include future prevailing wage rates when such prevailing wage rates can be determined for any such trade or occupation in any area and shall specify the effective date of those future prevailing wage rates. The certification shall also include wage rates for work performed on Sundays or the holidays specified in s. 103.49 (1) (c) and shift differentials based on the time of day or night when work is performed. If a construction project extends into more than one area, the department shall determine only one standard of prevailing wage rates for the entire project.

(4m) WAGE RATE DATA. In determining prevailing wage rates for projects that are subject to this section, the department shall use data from projects that are subject to this section, s. 66.0903 or 103.49, or [40 USC 3142](#). In determining prevailing wage rates for those projects, the department may not use data from any

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construction work that is performed by a state agency or a local governmental unit, as defined in s. 66.0903 (1) (d).

**(5) APPEALS TO GOVERNOR.** If the department of transportation considers any determination of the department of workforce development of the prevailing wage rates in an area to be incorrect, it may appeal to the governor, whose determination is final.

**(6) CONTENTS OF CONTRACTS.** The department of transportation shall include a reference to the prevailing wage rates determined under sub. (3) and the prevailing hours of labor in the notice published for the purpose of securing bids for a project. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if any contract or subcontract for a project that is subject to this section is entered into, the prevailing wage rates determined under sub. (3) and the prevailing hours of labor shall be physically incorporated into and made a part of the contract or subcontract. For a minor subcontract, as determined by the department of workforce development, that department shall prescribe by rule the method of notifying the minor subcontractor of the prevailing wage rates and prevailing hours of labor applicable to the minor subcontract. The prevailing wage rates and prevailing hours of labor applicable to a contract or subcontract may not be changed during the time that the contract or subcontract is in force. The department of transportation shall post the prevailing wage rates determined by the department, the prevailing hours of labor, and the provisions of subs. (2) and (7) in at least one conspicuous place that is easily accessible to the employees on the site of the project.

**(7) PENALTIES.** (a) Except as provided in pars. (b), (d), and (f), any contractor,

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subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent who violates this section may be fined not more than \$200 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months or both. Each day that a violation continues is a separate offense.

(b) Whoever induces any individual who seeks to be or is employed on any project that is subject to this section to give up, waive, or return any part of the wages to which the individual is entitled under the contract governing the project, or who reduces the hourly basic rate of pay normally paid to an individual for work on a project that is not subject to this section during a week in which the individual works both on a project that is subject to this section and on a project that is not subject to this section, by threat not to employ, by threat of dismissal from employment, or by any other means is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (1).

(c) Any individual employed on a project that is subject to this section who knowingly allows a contractor, subcontractor, or contractor's or subcontractor's agent to pay him or her less than the prevailing wage rate set forth in the contract governing the project, who gives up, waives, or returns any part of the compensation to which he or she is entitled under the contract, or who gives up, waives, or returns any part of the compensation to which he or she is normally entitled for work on a project that is not subject to this section during a week in which the individual works both on a project that is subject to this section and on a project that is not subject to this section, is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (2).

(d) Whoever induces any individual who seeks to be or is employed on any project that is subject to this section to allow any part of the wages to which the individual is entitled under the contract governing the project to be deducted from

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the individual's pay is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (3), unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

(e) Any individual employed on a project that is subject to this section who knowingly allows any part of the wages to which he or she is entitled under the contract governing the project to be deducted from his or her pay is guilty of an offense under s. 946.15 (4), unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

(f) Paragraph (a) does not apply to any individual who fails to provide any information to the department to assist the department in determining prevailing wage rates under sub. (3) or (4).

**(8) ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTION.** The department of transportation shall require adherence to subs. (2), (2m), and (6). The department of transportation may demand and examine, and every contractor, subcontractor, and contractor's or subcontractor's agent shall keep and furnish upon request by the department of transportation, copies of payrolls and other records and information relating to compliance with this section. Upon request of the department of transportation or upon complaint of alleged violation, the district attorney of the county in which the work is located shall investigate as necessary and prosecute violations in a court of competent jurisdiction. Section 111.322 (2m) applies to discharge and other discriminatory acts arising in connection with any proceeding under this section.

**SECTION 16.** 103.503 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

103.503 (1) (a) "Accident" means an incident caused, contributed to, or

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otherwise involving an employee that resulted or could have resulted in death, personal injury, or property damage and that occurred while the employee was performing the work described in s. 66.0903 (4), ~~2013 stats.~~, or s. ~~16.856~~ 103.49 (2m), ~~2015 stats.~~, on a project of public works or while the employee was performing work on a public utility project.

**SECTION 17.** 103.503 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

103.503 (1) (e) “Employee” means a laborer, worker, mechanic, or truck driver who performs the work described in s. 66.0903 (4), ~~2013 stats.~~, or s. ~~16.856~~ 103.49 (2m), ~~2015 stats.~~, on a project of public works or on a public utility project.

**SECTION 18.** 103.503 (1) (g) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

103.503 (1) (g) “Project of public works” means a project of public works that is subject to s. 66.0903 or 103.49.

**SECTION 19.** 103.503 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

103.503 (2) SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROHIBITED. No employee may use, possess, attempt to possess, distribute, deliver, or be under the influence of a drug, or use or be under the influence of alcohol, while performing the work described in s. 66.0903 (4), ~~2013 stats.~~, or s. ~~16.856~~ 103.49 (2m), ~~2015 stats.~~, on a project of public works or while performing work on a public utility project. An employee is considered to be under the influence of alcohol for purposes of this subsection if he or she has an alcohol concentration that is equal to or greater than the amount specified in s. 885.235 (1g) (d).

**SECTION 20.** 103.503 (3) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

103.503 (3) (a) 2. A requirement that employees performing the work

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described in s. 66.0903 (4), ~~2013 stats.~~, or s. ~~16.856~~ 103.49 (2m), ~~2015 stats.~~, on a project of public works or performing work on a public utility project submit to random, reasonable suspicion, and post-accident drug and alcohol testing and to drug and alcohol testing before commencing work on the project, except that testing of an employee before commencing work on a project is not required if the employee has been participating in a random testing program during the 90 days preceding the date on which the employee commenced work on the project.

**SECTION 21.** 104.001 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

104.001 (4) This section does not affect the requirement that employees employed on a public works project contracted for by a city, village, town, or county be paid at the prevailing wage rate, as defined in s. 66.0903 (1) (g), as required under s. 66.0903.

**SECTION 22.** 106.04 of the statutes is created to read:

**106.04 Employment of apprentices on state public works projects. (1)**

DEFINITION. In this section, “project” means a project of public works that is subject to s. 103.49 or 103.50 in which work is performed by employees employed in trades that are apprenticeable under this subchapter.

(2) **WAIVER.** If the department grants an exception or modification to any requirement in any contract for the performance of work on a project relating to the employment and training of apprentices, the department shall post that information on its Internet site, together with a detailed explanation for granting the exception or modification.

**SECTION 23.** 109.09 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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109.09 (1) The department shall investigate and attempt equitably to adjust controversies between employers and employees ~~as to~~ regarding alleged wage claims. The department may receive and investigate any wage claim that is filed with the department, or received by the department under s. 109.10 (4), no later than 2 years after the date the wages are due. The department may, after receiving a wage claim, investigate any wages due from the employer against whom the claim is filed to any employee during the period commencing 2 years before the date the claim is filed. The department shall enforce this chapter and ~~s. ss. 66.0903, 2013 stats., s. 103.49, 2013 stats., s. 229.8275, 2013 stats., and s. 16.856, 2015 stats., and ss. 103.02, 103.49, 103.82, and 104.12, and 229.8275.~~ In pursuance of this duty, the department may sue the employer on behalf of the employee to collect any wage claim or wage deficiency and ss. 109.03 (6) and 109.11 (2) and (3) shall apply to such actions. Except for actions under s. 109.10, the department may refer such an action to the district attorney of the county in which the violation occurs for prosecution and collection and the district attorney shall commence an action in the circuit court having appropriate jurisdiction. Any number of wage claims or wage deficiencies against the same employer may be joined in a single proceeding, but the court may order separate trials or hearings. In actions that are referred to a district attorney under this subsection, any taxable costs recovered by the district attorney shall be paid into the general fund of the county in which the violation occurs and used by that county to meet its financial responsibility under s. 978.13 (2) (b) for the operation of the office of the district attorney who prosecuted the action.

**SECTION 24.** 111.322 (2m) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

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111.322 **(2m)** (c) The individual files a complaint or attempts to enforce a right under s. 66.0903, 103.49, or 229.8275 or testifies or assists in any action or proceeding under s. 66.0903, 103.49, or 229.8275.

**SECTION 25.** 227.01 (13) (t) of the statutes is created to read:

227.01 **(13)** (t) Ascertains and determines prevailing wage rates under ss. 66.0903, 103.49, 103.50, and 229.8275, except that any action or inaction which ascertains and determines prevailing wage rates under ss. 66.0903, 103.49, 103.50, and 229.8275 is subject to judicial review under s. 227.40.

**SECTION 26.** 229.682 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

229.682 **(2)** PREVAILING WAGE. The construction of a baseball park facility that is financed in whole or in part by a district is subject to s. 66.0903.

**SECTION 27.** 229.8275 of the statutes is created to read:

**229.8275 Prevailing wage.** A district may not enter into a contract under s. 229.827 with a professional football team, as described in s. 229.823, or a related party that requires the team or related party to acquire and construct or renovate football stadium facilities that are part of any facilities that are leased by the district to the team or to a related party unless the professional football team or related party agrees to all of the following:

**(1)** Not to allow any employee working on the football stadium facilities who would be entitled to receive the prevailing wage rate under s. 66.0903 and who would not be required or allowed to work more than the prevailing hours of labor, if the football stadium facilities were a project of public works subject to s. 66.0903, to



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be paid less than the prevailing wage rate or to be required or allowed to work more than the prevailing hours of labor, except as allowed under s. 66.0903 (4) (a).

(2) To require any contractor, subcontractor, or agent of a contractor or subcontractor performing work on the football stadium facilities to keep and allow inspection of records in the same manner as a contractor, subcontractor, or agent of a contractor or subcontractor performing work on a project of public works that is subject to s. 66.0903 is required to keep and allow inspection of records under s. 66.0903 (10).

(3) To comply with s. 66.0903 in the same manner as a local governmental unit contracting for the erection, construction, remodeling, repairing, or demolition of a project of public works is required to comply with s. 66.0903 and to require any contractor, subcontractor, or agent of a contractor or subcontractor performing work on the football stadium facilities to comply with s. 66.0903 in the same manner as a contractor, subcontractor, or agent of a contractor or subcontractor performing work on a project of public works that is subject to s. 66.0903 is required to comply with s. 66.0903.

**SECTION 28.** 946.15 of the statutes is created to read:

**946.15 Public construction contracts at less than full rate.** (1) Any employer, or any agent or employee of an employer, who induces any individual who seeks to be or is employed pursuant to a public contract, as defined in s. 66.0901 (1) (c), or who seeks to be or is employed on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has been issued by the department of workforce development under s. 66.0903 (3), 103.49 (3), 103.50 (3), or 229.8275 (3) to give up, waive, or return any

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part of the compensation to which that individual is entitled under his or her contract of employment or under the prevailing wage rate determination issued by the department, or who reduces the hourly basic rate of pay normally paid to an employee for work on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has not been issued under s. 66.0903 (3), 103.49 (3), 103.50 (3), or 229.8275 (3) during a week in which the employee works both on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has been issued and on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has not been issued, is guilty of a Class I felony.

(2) Any individual employed pursuant to a public contract, as defined in s. 66.0901 (1) (c), or employed on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has been issued by the department of workforce development under s. 66.0903 (3), 103.49 (3), 103.50 (3), or 229.8275 (3) who gives up, waives, or returns to the employer or agent of the employer any part of the compensation to which the employee is entitled under his or her contract of employment or under the prevailing wage determination issued by the department, or who gives up any part of the compensation to which he or she is normally entitled for work on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has not been issued under s. 66.0903 (3), 103.49 (3), 103.50 (3), or 229.8275 (3) during a week in which the individual works part-time on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has been issued and part-time on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has not been issued, is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.

(3) Any employer or labor organization, or any agent or employee of an employer or labor organization, who induces any individual who seeks to be or is

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employed on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has been issued by the department of workforce development under s. 66.0903 (3), 103.49 (3), 103.50 (3), or 229.8275 (3) to allow any part of the wages to which that individual is entitled under the prevailing wage rate determination issued by the department or local governmental unit to be deducted from the individual's pay is guilty of a Class I felony, unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

(4) Any individual employed on a project on which a prevailing wage rate determination has been issued by the department of workforce development under s. 66.0903 (3), 103.49 (3), 103.50 (3), or 229.8275 (3) who allows any part of the wages to which that individual is entitled under the prevailing wage rate determination issued by the department or local governmental unit to be deducted from his or her pay is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor, unless the deduction would be allowed under [29 CFR 3.5](#) or [3.6](#) from an individual who is working on a project that is subject to [40 USC 3142](#).

**SECTION 29.** 978.05 (6) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

978.05 (6) (a) Institute, commence, or appear in all civil actions or special proceedings under and perform the duties set forth for the district attorney under ch. 980 and ss. 17.14, 30.03 (2), 48.09 (5), 59.55 (1), 59.64 (1), 89.08, 103.50 (8), 103.92 (4), 109.09, 343.305 (9) (a), 806.05, 938.09, 938.18, 938.355 (6) (b) and (6g) (a), 946.86, 946.87, 961.55 (5), 971.14 and 973.075 to 973.077, perform any duties in connection with court proceedings in a court assigned to exercise jurisdiction under chs. 48 and 938 as the judge may request and perform all appropriate duties and

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appear if the district attorney is designated in specific statutes, including matters within chs. 782, 976 and 979 and ss. 51.81 to 51.85. Nothing in this paragraph limits the authority of the county board to designate, under s. 48.09 (5), that the corporation counsel provide representation as specified in s. 48.09 (5) or to designate, under s. 48.09 (6) or 938.09 (6), the district attorney as an appropriate person to represent the interests of the public under s. 48.14 or 938.14.

**SECTION 9350. Initial applicability; Workforce Development.**

(1) PREVAILING WAGE. The treatment of ss. 19.36 (12), 66.0129 (5), 66.0903 (1) (a), (am), (b), (c), (cm), (dr), (em), (f), (g), (hm), (im), and (j), (1m) (b), and (2) to (12), 84.41 (3), 84.54, 86.51, 103.005 (12) (a), 103.49, 103.50, 103.503 (1) (a), (e), and (g), (2), and (3) (a) 2., 104.001 (4), 106.04, 109.09 (1), 111.322 (2m) (a) (with respect to s. 103.50), (b) (with respect to s. 103.50), and (c), 227.01 (13) (t), 229.682 (2), 229.8275, 946.15, and 978.05 (6) (a) first apply, with respect to a project of public works that is subject to bidding, to a project for which the request for bids is issued on the effective date of this subsection and, with respect to a project of public works that is not subject to bidding, to a project the contract for which is entered into on the effective date of this subsection.

(2) DISCRIMINATION. The treatment of ss. 66.0903 (10) (d), 111.322 (2m) (c), and 229.8275 first applies to acts of discrimination that occur on the effective date of this subsection.

**(END)**