
SENATE BILL 6345

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Senators Lias, King, Chapman, Krishnadasan, Lovick, Muzzall, and Dozier

Read first time 02/03/26. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to making transportation projects on state-owned
2 highways subject to certain contracting conditions; amending RCW
3 39.12.015; adding a new section to chapter 47.04 RCW; and adding a
4 new section to chapter 39.12 RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 47.04
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 Contracts for transportation projects on state-owned highways
9 must be bid or awarded in compliance with prevailing wages
10 established under section 2 of this act.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 39.12
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 For contracts bid or awarded on or after June 1, 2029, for
14 projects on state-owned highways, and notwithstanding RCW
15 39.12.010(1):

16 (1) The industrial statistician shall establish the prevailing
17 rate of wage by adopting the hourly wage, usual benefits, and
18 overtime paid for the geographic jurisdiction established in
19 collective bargaining agreements for those trades and occupations
20 that have collective bargaining agreements.

1 (2) (a) For trades and occupations with more than one collective
2 bargaining agreement in the county, the industrial statistician shall
3 determine and prevail the rate that represents the majority of
4 workers, laborers, or mechanics in the same trade or occupation under
5 the collective bargaining agreements. In the event there is not a
6 majority of workers, laborers, or mechanics in the same trade or
7 occupation paid at the same rate, then the rate representing the most
8 workers, laborers, or mechanics in the same trade or occupation
9 prevails. The industrial statistician shall consider the applicable
10 collective bargaining agreements and may seek input from the labor
11 and management signatory parties and their multiemployer bargaining
12 unit representatives, if applicable, regarding which rate is the
13 majority rate, or the rate representing the most workers, laborers,
14 or mechanics in the same trade or occupation in the event there is no
15 majority. In no case where there is a collective bargaining agreement
16 within a county, shall the industrial statistician conduct wage
17 surveys or otherwise apply hours worked data to set the prevailing
18 rate of wage, except that it may apply hours worked data to resolve
19 an appeal under (b) of this subsection.

20 (b) An interested party may appeal a determination by the
21 industrial statistician under (a) of this subsection. The interested
22 party must allege and prove by competent evidence that the actual
23 rate used in the determination is not the rate representing the
24 majority number or plurality of workers, laborers, or mechanics in
25 the same trade or occupation under the collective bargaining
26 agreements. Until final determination thereof, the work in question
27 proceeds under the rate established by the industrial statistician.

28 (3) For trades and occupations in which there are no collective
29 bargaining agreements in the county, the industrial statistician
30 shall establish the prevailing rate of wage as defined in RCW
31 39.12.010 by conducting wage and hour surveys. In instances when
32 there are no applicable collective bargaining agreements and
33 conducting wage and hour surveys is not feasible, the industrial
34 statistician may employ other appropriate methods to establish the
35 prevailing rate of wage.

36 **Sec. 3.** RCW 39.12.015 and 2019 c 29 s 2 are each amended to read
37 as follows:

1 (1) All determinations of the prevailing rate of wage shall be
2 made by the industrial statistician of the department of labor and
3 industries.

4 (2) The time period for recovery of any wages owed to a worker
5 affected by the determination is tolled until the prevailing wage
6 determination is final.

7 (3) (a) Except as provided in RCW 39.12.017 and section 2 of this
8 act, and notwithstanding RCW 39.12.010(1), the industrial
9 statistician shall establish the prevailing rate of wage by adopting
10 the hourly wage, usual benefits, and overtime paid for the geographic
11 jurisdiction established in collective bargaining agreements for
12 those trades and occupations that have collective bargaining
13 agreements. For trades and occupations with more than one collective
14 bargaining agreement in the county, the higher rate will prevail.

15 (b) For trades and occupations in which there are no collective
16 bargaining agreements in the county, the industrial statistician
17 shall establish the prevailing rate of wage as defined in RCW
18 39.12.010 by conducting wage and hour surveys. In instances when
19 there are no applicable collective bargaining agreements and
20 conducting wage and hour surveys is not feasible, the industrial
21 statistician may employ other appropriate methods to establish the
22 prevailing rate of wage.

--- END ---