

From the desk of:
Representative Paul Holvey



Please Support HB 2057

Wage Theft Protection for Construction Workers in Oregon

Wage theft affects millions of workers across the country and exacerbates income inequality. By addressing this issue head-on, we can create a fairer labor market and promote economic growth.

Streamlines the wage claim process: HB 2057 is crucial because it aims to streamline the wage claim process for contractors and employees in the construction industry. The bill encourages internal resolution of wage disputes or through joint labor-management committees, which leads to timely and cost-effective settlements.

Protect vulnerable workers: Low-wage workers, immigrants, and young workers are often the primary victims of wage theft. Our bill will provide these groups with the protection they need, ensuring their rights are upheld.

Strengthen the economy: When workers are fairly compensated, they have more disposable income to spend, thus boosting consumer demand and overall economic growth. As a result, families can better support themselves, law-abiding contractors can secure more work, and local and state governments can collect essential revenue, resulting in flourishing communities.

Encourage fair competition: By penalizing contractors who engage in wage theft, we create a more level playing field for honest contractors that follow the rules and treat their employees with respect.

Enhances the construction industry morale and worker productivity: HB 2057 incentivizes the construction industry to eliminate fraudulent contractors and prioritize those with a proven track record of labor law compliance, fostering a culture of self-policing. Workers who are confident that they will be paid fairly are more likely to be satisfied with their jobs and work more efficiently.

Chris Hewitt - OR & S Idaho District Council of Laborers - chewitt@osidcl.org

Jack Dempsey - NW Carpenters Union - jack@dempseypublicaffairs.com