

I OPPOSE [SB 850].

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB850/Introduced>

Senators: Taylor, Lieber, Gorsek, And Patterson Representatives: Grayber, Gamba, And Holvey!

The "**Summary of [SB 850]**" states, " Requires public body that procures construction services for certain qualified projects that use \$750,000 or more in funds of public agency or moneys made available to state under federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to enter into project labor agreement that, at minimum, provides for payment of wages at or above prevailing rate of wage, to use apprentices to perform at least 15 percent of work hours that workers in apprenticeable occupations perform on project and to establish and execute plan for outreach, recruitment and retention of women, minority individuals and veterans to perform work on project. Specifies exceptions."

**Have any of you elected folks paid any attention, whatsoever, to the Fed's Terminal rate? It is currently [4.5%] but it will climb higher this year. The Fed must keep raising the Terminal rate to knock down inflation. The Fed rate should climb to [6%] by the [4th quarter of 2023]. However, it is going to climb higher in 2024. This translates into serious challenges; higher prices for just about everything, supply-chain issues and recession.

** **[SB 850]** contracts will have higher prevailing wages and very costly "apprenticeship programs" with corresponding costly "edicts for, "outreach, recruitment and retention of women, minority individuals and veterans to perform work on project(s)." Project delays are foreseeable increasing project costs. These requirements are intentionally designed to satisfy the interests of Labor Unions but, private companies are subsequently left to, "twist in the wind," many will fail.

The public's interest is ill served for the aforementioned, stifles competition. **Private companies** who are owned and operated by minorities, women, Indigenous people, and veterans; will not be able to compete fairly for the Public Works projects funded by the American Rescue Plan Act.

The bigger question is why **[SB 850]** so constructed, as to insure increases in costs and delays for Public Works projects, thereby wiping out; fair and established competition, includes "systemic racism," in one Macbethian fell swoop.

Over the years, the Legislature has courted special interest groups, resulting in the inclusion of the prevailing wage driving up the costs of Public Works projects for pecuniary and political gains.

[SB 850] ensures Labor Unions dominance in procuring Public Works contracts.

[SB 850] digs up Tammany Hall up from its' stinking grave, removes the wooden stake from its' cold, depraved heart and the garlic braid from around its' rotting neck and thereby enlivens the unholy beast from the depths of Hell, to feed insatiably on Oregon's defenseless Public Works contracts.

The Unions do provide invaluable services and worth every dollar earned but are not an acceptable excuse intentionally excluding everyone else.

Equality, transparency and fairness in Public Works contracts, is job one.

David S. Wall

Mr. Oregon Concurr and says, "I like the stinking grave part."

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