

Submitter: Shelby Schuppe

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB460

I oppose SB460 because it is going to further enshrine inequities in the workforce in Oregon. By starting in pre-apprenticeship programs that don't pay a decent wage, workers who don't have additional supports and resources automatically start out a step behind workers who have other supports and resources to fill the gaps created by insufficient wages. Furthermore, public works is a notoriously underpaid field of work and severely underappreciated. Exempting workers from prevailing wages doesn't help anyone, and it sets a standard early on regarding the value of the person and the field itself. Pay people for their work. The statement from SEIU clearly outlines the inequities this bill will advance among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, Women, LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, disabled folks, and those from historically marginalized communities. We are the people most impacted by these types of bills long term.