



## Protect Prevailing Wage

*In January 2015, six bills were introduced in the Michigan Legislature that would repeal all or part of the [Prevailing Wage Act of 1965](http://www.michiganprevailingwage.com). Learn more about the benefits of prevailing wage at [www.michiganprevailingwage.com](http://www.michiganprevailingwage.com).*

*Over this summer and fall, a statewide petition drive funded by rich donors has sought to get enough signatures to repeal Michigan's Prevailing Wage Act. The primary outcome of prevailing wage repeal would be to **lower worker wages, not save taxpayer dollars**.*

*We think sufficient petition signatures will be gathered and presented to the state for approval. Then the question of prevailing wage repeal goes before the state Legislature.*

***We need your help. [Please contact your state legislator](#) and urge him or her not to support prevailing wage repeal in Michigan.***

What Your Legislator Needs to Know:

- In states where prevailing wage has been repealed, construction worker wages typically drop 10 percent. Who can afford a 10 percent wage cut?
- There are several academic studies that show prevailing wage repeal doesn't save the taxpayers anything, but will reduce worker wages and reduce benefits. Removing the law harms workers, but doesn't help taxpayers.
- Prevailing wage helps keep local jobs in the community. Remove the law and watch contractors win construction bids by bringing in lower-paid, less-experienced workers from out of the area. We want our tax dollars to employ local people.
- With lower wages, there's less money that is circulated in the community: to pay taxes, or to restaurants, stores and car dealerships. Lower paid workers are going to go to states that pay them better.
- "You get what you pay for" is one of the most common sayings used in business. What makes us think that we will get better quality construction with lower paid workers?