



OPPOSE

Expansion of Public Works “Prevailing Wage” Standards A.5498 (Bronson)/ S.2975 (Murphy)

We the organizations listed, represent thousands of businesses throughout New York State, and we **OPPOSE** this legislation that would subject every “contract for public work” to prevailing wage requirements.

This legislation would represent an unprecedented escalation in capital projects subjected to prevailing wage mandates. Considering prevailing wage rates are not reflective of local labor costs, rather union-scale level, this legislation will directly threaten taxpayers across the state.

We further oppose this bill because it discourages small business contractors from bidding on projects. When prevailing wage mandates are above a community’s market value for labor, large contractors attracted by inflated wages bid on projects and push out small contractors.

Furthermore, the compliance burdens associated with prevailing wage mandates, including recordkeeping and reporting, discourage small, local businesses from bidding on work

Imposing an even higher cost of doing business on New York’s already struggling small businesses--which would be the result of this legislation--will mean even fewer jobs in New York.

Accordingly, we oppose this bill and urge its defeat.

