

Resolution No. 9-0409

Resolution Opposing Proposed Changes to Prevailing Wage Law

Whereas, Governor Doyle's proposed biennial state budget, AB 75, makes the prevailing wage law applicable to any public works contract over \$2,000; and

Whereas, under current law the prevailing wage requirements only apply to multiple trade public works projects over \$234,000 and single trade public works projects over \$48,000; and

Whereas, reducing the threshold to \$2,000 will increase the cost of small public works projects previously exempted from the prevailing wage requirement; and

Whereas, the cost increase will be passed on to municipal property taxpayers or will force municipalities to reduce other services; and

Whereas, the Governor's proposed state budget also for the first time makes the prevailing wage law applicable to private projects that receive public financing; and

Whereas, many of the tools communities use to encourage development within a tax incremental financing district would be considered under the Governor's proposal to be public financing of a private project and would therefore make private construction projects within TIF districts subject to the prevailing wage law, thereby significantly increasing the developer's project costs; and

Whereas; applying the prevailing wage law to private projects receiving public financing will be a major disincentive to economic development and job creation.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors opposes the changes to the prevailing wage law included in Governor Doyle's state budget proposal, AB 75, and hereby urges the Wisconsin State Legislature to remove these items from the budget bill.

Dated: April 21, 2009

Respectfully submitted: Economic Development, Extension and Property Committee