



IBEW Local Union 124

March 1, 2021

Mayor Lucas and Members of the City Council:

Regarding: Ordinance # 210179.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers on behalf of thousands union and non-union craftsman plead the City of Kansas City, Missouri, to encourage fairness by extending its Prevailing Wage mandate into its incentive agencies by passing Ordinance #210179.

Prevailing wage requirements help prevent the construction industry from degenerating into destructive wage and price competition, which drives skilled and experienced workers from the industry, reduces productivity and quality, and leads to poverty-level jobs, without saving construction customers any money.

Prevailing wage laws also help ensure that jobs go to local workers whose families shop in local businesses, strengthening local economies—and that jobs don't go to low-wage workers brought in from out of state.

In sum, over the years studies prove prevailing wage laws promote "constructive competition" in the construction sector— competition based on skills, productivity, and quality—rather than "destructive competition" based on paying low wages to inexperienced workers.

Thank you, on behalf of the essential workers in the construction industry who are fighting for middle-class wages and the serious ability to add value to our community.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christopher D. Heegn".

Christopher D. Heegn