

PRESS



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**ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN ANNOUNCES BILL TO STRENGTHEN  
ILLINOIS PREVAILING WAGE ACT**

*Violations of the Act Would Become Felonies Under Proposed Legislation*

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced new legislation to beef up the state's Prevailing Wage Act to include, among other things, making violations of the Act a felony. Also, those criminally convicted would be prohibited from working on public projects for a period of four years.

"We need to give local law enforcement the tools they need to ensure that employees working on taxpayer-funded projects are paid commensurate with wages in their area under terms of the Act," said Madigan, who will work with Rep. Brandon Phelps during the spring session of the General Assembly on the legislation (House Bill 3237).

"Hard-working men and women deserve a fair wage — one with which they can feed their families," Rep. Phelps said. "Unscrupulous contractors, who outbid honest companies for projects paid for with tax dollars, need to be accountable for their actions. This legislation would do that."

In addition to violations of the Prevailing Wage Act (*815 ILCS 130/1 et seq.*) becoming Class 4 felonies from their current status as Class A misdemeanors, Attorney General Madigan said the proposed legislation will boost enforcement, bring about more widespread compliance and less fraud on public bodies. Additionally, the bill:

- Permits state, local and federal law enforcement agencies to obtain relevant documents from contractors and subcontractors. Currently, only IDOL and the relevant public body have the right to obtain these documents.
- Reduces the amount of notice contractors and subcontractors have prior to the inspection of documents by government entities from seven to three days.
- Ensures that officers and agents of corporations that perform prevailing wage work are held accountable for the actions of their corporations.
- Provides clarification about when certified payrolls must be filed and how long certified payroll records must be retained.

# TEAMSTERS, AUTOMOTIVE, PETROLEUM AND ALLIED TRADES LOCAL UNION NO. 50

*Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters*

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## **TEAMSTERS LOCAL 50** **SUPPORTS FIGHT FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS**

Teamsters Local 50 is standing with workers throughout the United States who are fighting an unprecedented attack on working families that has been launched across the country.

“We’re not going to let them get away with it,” said Robert Triplett, President of Local 50.” “By launching this corporate-funded attack against all working people, the forces who want to deny workers their rights and dignity have united us. We are saying “enough is enough.” We are going to make sure we defend the rights of workers in our area and those throughout the United States.”

“You are turning the tide of public opinion,” Hoffa said. “Local unions throughout the United States are stepping up and standing with the workers in Wisconsin and other states who are under direct attack. We have a saying in the labor movement, ‘an injury to one is an injury to all.’ We will fight for as long as it takes to defend workers’ rights and say no to this coordinated attack. This is not just about public employees – this fight involves all workers.”

Founded in 1903, the Teamsters Union represents 1.4 million hardworking men and women throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, including thousands of law enforcement officers in over 1,400 departments and agencies.

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