

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill requires the determination of prevailing wage rates using a median, rather than modal, calculation. It further requires prevailing wage rates to be determined using wage statistics from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, a survey prepared and published by the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).

Section

- 1 Prevailing wage rate.** Modifies the definition of "prevailing wage rate" such that the prevailing wage is the *median* hourly basic rate of pay (plus the median contribution for other benefits) for workers in the same field working in the same field within the same area. (Under current law, prevailing wage is whatever wage is being paid to the largest number of workers working in the same field within the same area. This is a *modal* calculation, which may be higher or lower than the average wage paid to a group of workers.) The bill also requires the prevailing wage rate to be determined by using wage statistics published in the Occupational Employment Statistics survey prepared by DEED. (Prevailing wage rates are currently determined based on surveys conducted by the Department of Labor and Industry.)
- 2 Occupational Employment Statistics survey; benefits information.** Requires DEED to include statistics on employer contributions for employee health and welfare benefits, vacation benefits, pension benefits, and any other economic benefits paid to employees as part of the Occupational Employment Statistics survey.