

## *Missouri Revised Statutes*

### **Chapter 290**

### **Wages, Hours and Dismissal Rights**

#### **Prevailing wage rates required on construction of public works.**

290.230. 1. Not less than the prevailing hourly rate of wages for work of a similar character in the locality in which the work is performed, and not less than the prevailing hourly rate of wages for legal holiday and overtime work, shall be paid to all workmen employed by or on behalf of any public body engaged in the construction of public works, exclusive of maintenance work. Only such workmen as are directly employed by contractors or subcontractors in actual construction work on the site of the building or construction job shall be deemed to be employed upon public works.

2. When the hauling of materials or equipment includes some phase of construction other than the mere transportation to the site of the construction, workmen engaged in this dual capacity shall be deemed employed directly on public works.

(L. 1957 p. 574 § 3)

#### **Department of labor and industrial relations to enforce--make regulations.**

290.240. 1. The department shall inquire diligently as to any violation of sections 290.210 to 290.340, shall institute actions for penalties herein prescribed, and shall enforce generally the provisions of sections 290.210 to 290.340.

2. The department may establish rules and regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 290.210 to 290.340.

(L. 1957 p. 574 § 6, A.L. 1969 S.B. 142)

#### **Prevailing wage, incorporation into contracts--failure to pay, penalty--complaints of violation, public body or prime contractor to withhold payment.**

290.250. Every public body authorized to contract for or construct public works, before advertising for bids or undertaking such construction shall request the department to determine the prevailing rates of wages for workmen for the class or type of work called for by the public works, in the locality where the work is to be performed. The department shall determine the prevailing hourly rate of wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed for each type of workman required to execute the contemplated contract and such determination or schedule of the prevailing hourly rate of wages shall be attached to and made a part of the specifications for the work. The public body shall then specify in the resolution or ordinance and in the call for bids for the contract, what is the prevailing hourly rate of wages in the locality for each type of workman needed to execute the contract and also the general prevailing rate for legal holiday and overtime work. It shall be mandatory upon the contractor to whom the contract is awarded and upon any subcontractor under him, to pay not less than the specified rates to all workmen employed by them in the execution of the contract. The public body awarding the contract shall cause to be inserted in the contract a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing hourly rate of wages shall be paid to all workmen performing work under the contract. It shall

also require in all contractor's bonds that the contractor include such provisions as will guarantee the faithful performance of the prevailing hourly wage clause as provided by contract. The contractor shall forfeit as a penalty to the state, county, city and county, city, town, district or other political subdivision on whose behalf the contract is made or awarded ten dollars for each workman employed, for each calendar day, or portion thereof, such workman is paid less than the said stipulated rates for any work done under said contract, by him or by any subcontractor under him, and the said public body awarding the contract shall cause to be inserted in the contract a stipulation to this effect. It shall be the duty of such public body awarding the contract, and its agents and officers, to take cognizance of all complaints of all violations of the provisions of sections 290.210 to 290.340 committed in the course of the execution of the contract, and, when making payments to the contractor becoming due under said contract, to withhold and retain therefrom all sums and amounts due and owing as a result of any violation of sections 290.210 to 290.340. It shall be lawful for any contractor to withhold from any subcontractor under him sufficient sums to cover any penalties withheld from him by the awarding body on account of said subcontractor's failure to comply with the terms of sections 290.210 to 290.340, and if payment has already been made to him, the contractor may recover from him the amount of the penalty in a suit at law.

(L. 1957 p. 574 § 4, A.L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Determination of hourly rate for highways and transportation commission, when made, where filed, objections, hearing, determination.**

- 290.260. 1. The department, as it deems necessary, shall from time to time investigate and determine the prevailing hourly rate of wages in the localities. A determination applicable to every locality to be contained in a general wage order shall be made annually on or before July first of each year for the Missouri state highways and transportation commission and shall remain in effect until superseded by a new general wage order. In determining prevailing rates, the department shall ascertain and consider the applicable wage rates established by collective bargaining agreements, if any, and the rates that are paid generally within the locality.
2. A certified copy of the determination so made shall be filed immediately with the secretary of state and with the department in Jefferson City. Copies shall be supplied by the department to all persons requesting them within ten days after the filing.
3. At any time within thirty days after the certified copies of the determinations have been filed with the secretary of state and the department, any person who is affected thereby may object in writing to the determination or the part thereof that he deems objectionable by filing a written notice with the department, stating the specific grounds of the objection.
4. Within thirty days of the receipt of the objection, the department shall set a date for a hearing on the objection. The date for the hearing shall be within sixty days of the receipt of the objection. Written notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given to the objectors at least ten days prior to the date set for the hearing.
5. The department at its discretion may hear each written objection separately or consolidate for hearing any two or more written objections. At the hearing the department shall first introduce in evidence the investigation it instituted and the other facts which were considered at the time of the original determination which formed the basis for its determination. The department, or the

objector, or any interested party, thereafter may introduce any evidence that is material to the issues.

6. Within twenty days of the conclusion of the hearing, the department must rule on the written objection and make the final determination that it believes the evidence warrants. Immediately, the department shall file a certified copy of its final determination with the secretary of state and with the department and shall serve a copy of the final determination on all parties to the proceedings by personal service or by registered mail.

7. This final decision of the department of the prevailing wages in the locality is subject to review in accordance with the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo. Any person affected, whether or not the person participated in the proceedings resulting in the final determination, may have the decision of the department reviewed. The filing of the final determination with the secretary of state shall be considered a service of the final determination on persons not participating in the administrative proceedings resulting in the final determination.

8. At any time before trial any person affected by the final determination of the department may intervene in the proceedings to review under chapter 536, RSMo, and be made a party to the proceedings.

9. All proceedings in any court affecting a determination of the department under the provisions of sections 290.210 to 290.340 shall have priority in hearing and determination over all other civil proceedings pending in the court, except election contests.

(L. 1957 p. 574 § 8, A.L. 1965 p. 95, A.L. 1969 S.B. 142)

**Determination of hourly rate by location and occupation title, when made, where filed--objections, hearings--final determination--notice to department by public body, when.**

290.262. 1. Except as otherwise provided in section 290.260, the department shall annually investigate and determine the prevailing hourly rate of wages in each locality for each separate occupational title. A final determination applicable to every locality to be contained in an annual wage order shall be made annually on or before July first of each year and shall remain in effect until superseded by a new annual wage order or as otherwise provided in this section. In determining prevailing rates, the department shall ascertain and consider the applicable wage rates established by collective bargaining agreements, if any, and the rates that are paid generally within the locality, and shall, by March tenth of each year, make an initial determination for each occupational title within the locality.

2. A certified copy of the initial determinations so made shall be filed immediately with the secretary of state and with the department in Jefferson City. Copies shall be supplied by the department to all persons requesting them within ten days after the filing.

3. At any time within thirty days after the certified copies of the determinations have been filed with the secretary of state and the department, any person who is affected thereby may object in writing to a determination or a part thereof that he deems objectionable by filing a written notice with the department, stating the specific grounds of the objection. If no objection is filed, the determination is final after thirty days.

4. After the receipt of the objection, the department shall set a date for a hearing on the objection. The date for the hearing shall be within sixty days of the receipt of the objection. Written notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given to the objectors at least ten days prior to the date set for the hearing.

5. The department at its discretion may hear each written objection separately or consolidate for hearing any two or more written objections. At the hearing the department shall first introduce in evidence the investigation it instituted and the other facts which were considered at the time of the original determination which formed the basis for its determination. The department, or the objector, or any interested party, thereafter may introduce any evidence that is material to the issues.

6. Within twenty days of the conclusion of the hearing, the department shall rule on the written objection and make the final determination that it believes the evidence warrants. Immediately, the department shall file a certified copy of its final determination with the secretary of state and with the department and shall serve a copy of the final determination on all parties to the proceedings by personal service or by registered mail.

7. This final decision of the department of the prevailing wages in the locality for each occupational title is subject to review in accordance with the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo. Any person affected, whether or not the person participated in the proceedings resulting in the final determination, may have the decision of the department reviewed. The filing of the final determination with the secretary of state shall be considered a service of the final determination on persons not participating in the administrative proceedings resulting in the final determination.

8. At any time before trial any person affected by the final determination of the department may intervene in the proceedings to review under chapter 536, RSMo, and be made a party to the proceedings.

9. Any annual wage order made for a particular occupational title in a locality may be altered once each year, as provided in this subsection. The prevailing wage for each such occupational title may be adjusted on the anniversary date of any collective bargaining agreement which covers all persons in that particular occupational title in the locality in accordance with any annual incremental wage increases set in the collective bargaining agreement. If the prevailing wage for an occupational title is adjusted pursuant to this subsection, the employee's representative or employer in regard to such collective bargaining agreement shall notify the department of this adjustment, including the effective date of the adjustment. The adjusted prevailing wage shall be in effect until the next final annual wage order is issued pursuant to this section. The wage rates for any particular job, contracted and commenced within sixty days of the contract date, which were set as a result of the annual or revised wage order, shall remain in effect for the duration of that particular job.

10. In addition to all other reporting requirements of sections 290.210 to 290.340, each public body which is awarding a contract for a public works project shall, prior to beginning of any work on such public works project, notify the department, on a form prescribed by the department, of the scope of the work to be done, the various types of craftsmen who will be needed on the project, and the date work will commence on the project.

(L. 1993 H.B. 638)

### **Hourly wage must equal or exceed federal minimum wage.**

290.263. The hourly wages to be paid as prescribed in section 290.250 to workmen upon public works shall not be less than the minimum wage specified under Section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Wage rates posted, where.**

290.265. A clearly legible statement of all prevailing hourly wage rates to be paid to all workmen employed in order to execute the contract and employed on the construction of the public works shall be kept posted in a prominent and easily accessible place at the site thereof by each contractor and subcontractor engaged in the public works projects under the provisions of this law and such notice shall remain posted during the full time that any such workman shall be employed on the public works.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Declaration as to prevailing wages final--maximum wages and hours not limited.**

290.270. The finding of the department ascertaining and declaring the prevailing hourly rate of wages shall be final for the locality, unless reviewed under the provisions of sections 290.210 to 290.340. Nothing in sections 290.210 to 290.340, however, shall be construed to prohibit the payment to any workman employed on any public work of more than the prevailing rate of wages. Nothing in sections 290.210 to 290.340 shall be construed to limit the hours of work which may be performed by any workman in any particular period of time.

(L. 1957 p. 574 § 7, A.L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Actions for prevailing wages by workman authorized.**

290.300. Any workman employed by the contractor or by any subcontractor under the contractor who shall be paid for his services in a sum less than the stipulated rates for work done under the contract, shall have a right of action for double whatever difference there may be between the amount so paid and the rates provided by the contract together with a reasonable attorney's fee to be determined by the court, and an action brought to recover same shall be deemed to be a suit for wages, and any and all judgments entered therein shall have the same force and effect as other judgments for wages.

### **Rebates by workmen prohibited, exception.**

290.305. No person, firm or corporation shall violate the wage provisions of any contract contemplated in sections 290.210 to 290.340 or suffer or require any employee to work for less than the rate of wages so fixed, or violate any of the provisions contained in sections 290.210 to 290.340. Where workmen are employed and their rate of wages has been determined as provided in sections 290.210 to 290.340, no person, either for himself or any other person, shall request, demand or receive, either before or after such workman is engaged, that such workman pay back, return, donate, contribute, or give any part or all of said workman's wages, salary, or thing of value, to any person, upon the statement, representation, or understanding that failure to comply with such request or demand will prevent such workman from procuring or retaining employment, and no person shall, directly or indirectly, pay, request or authorize any other

person to violate this section. This section does not apply to any agent or representative of a duly constituted labor organization acting in the collection of dues or assessments of such organization.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Deductions from wages, agreement to be written, approval of public body required.**

290.315. All contractors and subcontractors required in sections 290.210 to 290.340 to pay not less than the prevailing rate of wages shall make full payment of such wages in legal tender, without any deduction for food, sleeping accommodations, transportation, use of small tools, or any other thing of any kind or description. This section does not apply where the employer and employee enter into an agreement in writing at the beginning of said term of employment covering deductions for food, sleeping accommodations, or other similar items, provided such agreement is submitted by the employer to the public body awarding the contract and the same is approved by such public body as fair and reasonable.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Advertising for bids before prevailing wage is determined prohibited.**

290.320. No public body, officer, official, member, agent or representative authorized to contract for public works shall fail, before advertising for bids or contracting for such construction, to have the department determine the prevailing rates of wages of workmen for each class of work called for by the public works in the locality where the work is to be performed as provided in sections 290.210 to 290.340.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Awarding contract or payment without prevailing wage determination prohibited.**

290.325. No public body, officer, official, member, agent or representative thereof authorized to contract for public works shall award a contract for the construction of such improvement or disburse any funds on account of the construction of such public improvement, unless such public body has first had the department determine the prevailing rates of wages of workmen for the class of work called for by such public works in the locality where the work is to be performed and such determination has been made a part of the specifications and contract for such public works.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Convicted violators of sections 290.210 to 290.340 listed, effect of.**

290.330. The department after investigation, upon complaint or upon its own initiative, shall file with the secretary of state a list of the contractors and subcontractors who it finds have been prosecuted and convicted for violations of sections 290.210 to 290.340 and such contractor or subcontractor, or simulations thereof, shall be prohibited from contracting directly or indirectly with any public body for the construction of any public works or from performing any work on the same as a contractor or subcontractor for a period of one year from the date of the first conviction for such violation and for a period of three years from the date of each subsequent violation and conviction thereof. No public body shall award a contract for a public works to any

contractor or subcontractor, or simulation thereof, during the time that its name appears on said list. The filing of the notice of conviction with the secretary of state shall be notice to all public bodies and their officers, officials, members, agents and representatives.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Notice of violation, failure to comply, attorney general shall sue, injunctive relief authorized.**

290.335. If it is found that a public body, contractor or subcontractor has not complied with any of the terms of sections 290.210 to 290.340, the department shall give notice of the precise violation in writing to such public body, contractor or subcontractor. Sufficient time may be allowed for compliance therewith as the department deems necessary. After the expiration of the time prescribed in said notice, the department may in writing inform the attorney general of the fact that such notice has been given and that the public body, contractor or subcontractor or the authorized representative or agent thereof to whom it was directed has not complied with such notice. Upon receipt thereof, the attorney general shall at the earliest possible time bring suit in the name of the state in the circuit court of the county in which such public body is located or where any such contractor or subcontractor is engaged in any public works to enjoin the award of such contract for a public works, or any further work or payments thereunder if the contract has been awarded, until the requirements of such notice are fully complied with. The court may issue a temporary restraining order with due notice to the defendant in such action. The plaintiff shall in any such injunctive action post an adequate bond to be set by the circuit judge. Upon final hearing thereof, if the court is satisfied that the requirements of the notice by the department to the defendant were not unreasonable or arbitrary, it shall issue an order enjoining the awarding of such contract for a public works, or any further work or payments thereunder if the contract has been awarded, until the notice is fully complied with. Such injunction shall continue operative until the court is satisfied that the requirements of such notice have been complied with and the court shall have and exercise with respect to the enforcement of such injunctions all the power in it in other similar cases. Both the plaintiff and defendant in such action have the same rights of appeal as are provided by law in other injunction proceedings.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

### **Penalty for violation.**

290.340. Any officer, official, member, agent or representative of any public body, contractor or subcontractor who willfully violates and omits to comply with any of the provisions and requirements of sections 290.210 to 290.340 shall be punished for each violation thereof by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each day such violation or omission continues shall constitute a separate offense as contemplated by this section.

(L. 1969 S.B. 142)

(1997) As used in this section