



115 West Allegan St. Suite 600
Lansing, MI 48933

517-485-3409
NFIB.com

To: The Honorable Members of the House Labor Committee
Date: March 8, 2023
From: Amanda Fisher, NFIB Michigan State Director
Re: Please Vote NO on Right to Work Repeal and Reinstatement of Prevailing Wage -
HBs 4004-4005, 4007

On behalf of over 10,000 small and independent business owners in Michigan, we are urging you to vote no on House Bills 4004-5 and 4007.

NFIB is unique because we set our policy by a vote of our entire membership. When balloted at the beginning of the year, 85% of members indicated their support for keeping Michigan as a right-to-work state. Additionally, 75% members voted to support repealing the prevailing wage.

Right-to-work, along with other important reforms such as prevailing wage repeal, fueled economic growth and prosperity over the past decade and brought our state out of "the lost decade." Since Right-to-Work was enacted, wages have increased by over 20%, manufacturing jobs have risen by 26%, and even union membership has gone up.

A strong economic climate is necessary for the free enterprise required for small businesses to thrive; and statistics show time and again that workplace freedom is crucial in attracting and keeping both large and small businesses. Reversing policies that could harm our state's economy is a direct threat to the small businesses that employ almost half of all workers in Michigan. After years of government shutdowns, runaway inflation, supply chain issues, and labor shortages, small business cannot afford one more hit to Michigan's economy.

In regard to HB 4007, the reinstatement of prevailing wage would be a direct hit to small contractors. The law acts as a 'super minimum wage' that sets wages much higher than local construction wages determined by fair competition in the free market. Beyond inflated wages, most small and medium sized businesses are unable to navigate the almost 500,000 wage classifications that existed before the law was repealed. The regulatory cost would often far exceed the wage increases, and ultimately, discourages small business contractors from bidding on public projects.

Protect Main Street's ability to create jobs, find workers, pay employees, and compete with neighboring states by voting "NO" on HBs 4004-4005 and 4007.