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House District 35 – West Fairbanks

HB 186

“An Act relating to the use of apprentice labor in public construction projects; and relating to a report on the use of apprentice labor in public construction projects.”

Section 1: Amends AS 36.05 by adding a new section to article one which reads Use of apprentice labor in construction.

Subsection A: When a construction contract is advertised by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities or the Department of Administration that is worth \$5,000,000 or more, not less than 15% of the labor hours must be performed by apprentices in the following occupations:

1. Boilermakers
2. Bricklayers
3. Carpenters
4. Cement Masons
5. Culinary Workers
6. Electricians
7. Equipment Operators
8. Elevator Constructors & Mechanics
9. Insulation Workers
10. Ironworkers
11. Laborers
12. Mechanics
13. Millwrights
14. Painters
15. Piledriving Occupations
16. Plumbers and Pipefitters
17. Roofers
18. Sheet Metal Workers
19. Surveyors
20. Sprinkler Fitters
21. Truck Drivers
22. Tugboat Workers
23. Welders

Subsection B: The commissioner of the Department of Transportation or the commissioner of the Department of Administration shall provide to the commissioner of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development the following information for each construction project:

1. Name of the project

2. Dollar value of the project
3. The name of the prime contractor and contact information for the prime contractor
4. The name of each subcontractor and contact information as provided to the department and prime contractor
5. The percentage of labor hours that will be preformed by apprentices
6. The occupation title of each apprentice used

Subsection C: the commissioner of labor and workforce development shall collect data on the total apprentice hours worked on each construction project that is provided to the commissioner under subsection B.

Subsection D: this section does not apply to a construction project if applying the requirements of this section to the project would cause the state to lose federal funding.

Subsection E: contains three definitions

1. Apprentice means an apprentice enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program under 29 U.S.C. 50
2. "construction" means the process of building, altering, repairing, maintaining, improving, or demolishing a public highway, structure, building, or other public improvement for any kind of real property other than privately owned real property leased for the use of agencies; "construction" does not include professional and other services related to the planning and design required for a construction project, the routine operation of a public improvement to real property, or the construction of public housing
3. "labor hours" means the total hours of work performed by construction workers on a project in job classes subject to minimum wage rates under AS 36.05.070.

Section 2: Amends the uncodified law of the State of Alaska by adding a new section requiring a report to the legislature. The commissioner of labor and workforce development shall, with the assistance of the commissioner of administration and the commissioner of transportation and public facilities, submit a report to the legislature identifying the percentage of apprentice labor hours in the occupations listed in AS 36.05.125 that were used in each construction contract subject to AS 36.05.125 for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2026, June 30, 2027, June 30, 2028, June 30, 2029, and June 30, 2030. The commissioner of labor and workforce development shall deliver the report to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of representatives on or before September 1, 2030, and shall notify the legislature that the report is available.