

**SENATE BILL NO. 173**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY SENATOR DUNBAR**

**Introduced: 4/14/25**

**Referred: Labor and Commerce, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the use of apprentice labor in public construction projects; relating**  
2 **to the use of veteran apprentice labor in public construction projects; and relating to an**  
3 **annual report on the use of apprentice labor in public construction projects."**

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 36.05 is amended by adding new sections to article 1 to read:

6 **Sec. 36.05.125. Use of apprentice labor in construction.** (a) To the extent  
7 practicable, each construction contract that the Department of Transportation and  
8 Public Facilities or the Department of Administration advertises for bids that has a  
9 contract award amount of \$2,500,000 or more must require that not less than 15  
10 percent of the labor hours on a project be performed by apprentices in the following  
11 occupations:

- 12 (1) boilermakers;  
13 (2) bricklayers;  
14 (3) carpenters;

- 1 (4) cement masons;
- 2 (5) culinary workers;
- 3 (6) electricians;
- 4 (7) elevator constructors and mechanics;
- 5 (8) equipment operators;
- 6 (9) insulation workers;
- 7 (10) ironworkers;
- 8 (11) laborers;
- 9 (12) mechanics;
- 10 (13) millwrights;
- 11 (14) painters;
- 12 (15) pile driving occupations;
- 13 (16) plumbers and pipefitters;
- 14 (17) roofers;
- 15 (18) sheet metal workers;
- 16 (19) sprinkler fitters;
- 17 (20) surveyors;
- 18 (21) truck drivers;
- 19 (22) tugboat workers; and
- 20 (23) welders.

21 (b) A construction contract under (a) of this section must, to the extent  
22 practicable, require that at least 20 percent of the apprentices hired be veterans.

23 (c) The commissioner of transportation and public facilities or the  
24 commissioner of administration shall provide to the commissioner of labor and  
25 workforce development the following information for each construction project  
26 subject to (a) of this section:

- 27 (1) the name of the project;
- 28 (2) the dollar value of the project;
- 29 (3) the name of the prime contractor and contact information for the  
30 prime contractor;
- 31 (4) the name of each subcontractor and contact information as

1 provided to the department by the prime contractor;

2 (5) the percentage of labor hours that will be performed by apprentices  
3 and by apprentices who are veterans;

4 (6) the number of apprentices who are veterans; and

5 (7) the occupation title of each apprentice used.

6 (d) For each construction project for which the commissioner of labor and  
7 workforce development receives information under (c) of this section, the  
8 commissioner shall collect data on the total number of

9 (1) apprentice hours worked on the construction project; and

10 (2) veteran apprentices that were hired for the construction project.

11 (e) This section does not apply to a construction project if applying the  
12 requirements of this section to the project would cause the state to lose federal  
13 funding.

14 **Sec. 36.05.130. Annual report to the legislature.** The commissioner of labor  
15 and workforce development shall, with the assistance of the commissioner of  
16 administration and the commissioner of transportation and public facilities, submit a  
17 report to the legislature identifying, for each construction contract in the previous year  
18 subject to AS 36.05.125, the percentage of apprentice labor hours in the occupations  
19 listed in AS 36.05.125 that were used and the number of veteran apprentices that were  
20 hired. The commissioner of labor and workforce development shall deliver the report  
21 to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of representatives on or before  
22 February 1 of each year and shall notify the legislature that the report is available.

23 **Sec. 36.05.135. Definitions.** In AS 36.05.125 - 36.05.135,

24 (1) "apprentice" means an apprentice enrolled in a registered  
25 apprenticeship program under 29 U.S.C. 50;

26 (2) "construction" means the process of building, altering, repairing,  
27 maintaining, improving, or demolishing a public highway, structure, building, or other  
28 public improvement for any kind of real property other than privately owned real  
29 property leased for the use of agencies; "construction" does not include professional  
30 and other services related to the planning and design required for a construction  
31 project, the routine operation of a public improvement to real property, or the

1 construction of public housing;

2 (3) "labor hours" means the total hours of work performed by  
3 construction workers on a project in job classes subject to minimum wage rates under  
4 AS 36.05.070;

5 (4) "veteran" means an individual who

6 (A) served in the

7 (i) armed forces of the United States, including a  
8 reserve unit of the United States armed forces; or

9 (ii) Alaska Territorial Guard, the Alaska Army National  
10 Guard, the Alaska Air National Guard, or the Alaska Navel Militia; and

11 (B) was separated from service under a condition that was not  
12 dishonorable.