

Chapter 21

(House Bill 174 of the 2021 Regular Session)

AN ACT concerning

Public Utilities – Investor–Owned Utilities – Prevailing Wage

FOR the purpose of requiring certain investor–owned gas, electric, or combination gas and electric companies to require certain contractors and subcontractors to pay their employees not less than the prevailing wage rate for certain projects; and generally relating to investor–owned utilities and the prevailing wage.

BY adding to

Article – Public Utilities

Section 5–305

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement

Section 17–201(h)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Utilities

5–305.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A PROJECT BY AN INVESTOR–OWNED GAS COMPANY, ELECTRIC COMPANY, OR COMBINATION GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY INVOLVING THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, DEMOLITION, RESTORATION, OR ALTERATION OF ANY UNDERGROUND GAS OR ELECTRIC INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE COMPANY, AND ANY RELATED TRAFFIC CONTROL ACTIVITIES.

(B) AN INVESTOR–OWNED GAS COMPANY, ELECTRIC COMPANY, OR COMBINATION GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL REQUIRE A CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR ON A PROJECT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION TO PAY ITS EMPLOYEES NOT LESS THAN THE PREVAILING WAGE RATE DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY UNDER TITLE 17, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

Article – State Finance and Procurement

17–201.

(h) “Prevailing wage rate” means the hourly rate of wages paid in the locality as determined by the Commissioner under § 17–208 of this subtitle.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.

Gubernatorial Veto Override, December 6, 2021.