Prevailing Wage and Economic Development
ALL 10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PREVAILING WAGE AND... ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. **The Truth:** Prevailing wage strengthens state and local economies.

2. **Fast Fact:** States with weak/no prevailing wage have 2 percent more construction work completed by out-of-area contractors.

3. **Fast Fact:** By supporting local contractors, prevailing wage keeps public funds in the local market, with ripple effects throughout the economy.

4. **Fast Fact:** Repeal of prevailing wage would cost California 17,500 jobs and Michigan 11,000 jobs.

5. **Fast Fact:** Every dollar spent on a prevailing wage project generates $1.50 in economic activity.

6. **This Quote:** “Prevailing wage supports a dynamic, 'high road' economy that promotes worker productivity and boosts economic activity.”
   - Kevin Duncan, Alex Lantsberg, Frank Manzo IV (2015)

7. **This Chart:**
   - Real Wage and Salary Income: By Percentile (Adjusted by Inflation and Regional Price Parities)
   - Prevailing wage laws raise construction worker incomes, but benefit the poorest workers most.

8. **This Study:** *Building the Golden State: The Economic Impacts of California’s Prevailing Wage Policy* by Kevin Duncan and Alex Lantsberg at Smart Cities Prevail (2015).

9. **This Study:** *A Weakened State: The Economic and Social Impacts of Repeal of the Prevailing Wage Law in Illinois* by Alison Dickson Quesada, Frank Manzo IV, Dale Belman, and Robert Bruno at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2013).

10. **The Takeaway:** Prevailing wage generates benefits to workers, contractors, families, and the economy.