



HB 4324 – Wage Protection Act

Welch (Chief Sponsor) – Davis - Stratton

The Wage Protection Act will give workers a tool to collect wages that have stolen from them. Too often, bad employers manipulate current laws to avoid paying workers the wages owed to them.

- ❖ This isn't about giving more rights to workers, this is about enforcing the law to employers who have already broken the law
- ❖ This legislation is modeled after the most basic premise of our economy: a day's work = a day's pay
- ❖ Working families shouldn't make impossible decisions between rent, mortgage, groceries, medical bills, and their children
- ❖ This is good for businesses because bad employers are making higher profits illegally while the other businesses are being fair and following the rules

Many states have wage lien laws in some form. States that have enacted laws like the Illinois Wage Lien Act include Alaska, California, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New York, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Illinois will be the 15th State to pass this in the country

FACTS

- Every single week in Cook County, \$7.3 million is stolen from workers
- Every year in Illinois, \$625,000,000 is stolen from low-wage workers
- Every year in Illinois, over 22% of low-wage workers experience wage theft

Proponents (in formation):

Arise Chicago, Restaurant Opportunities Chicago, Chicago Workers' Collaborative, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos, Chicago Community & Workers Rights, Latino Union, Warehouse Workers for Justice, Workers Center for Racial Justice, Illinois Office of Attorney General, IL AFL-CIO, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Raise the Floor Alliance, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, Chicago Federation of Labor, AFSCME Local 31

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