

**CONSERVATIVE PARTY of NEW YORK STATE**  
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*2019 Legislative Memo...*

*In Opposition to...*

**A. 1261 – Bronson Cal # 101**

**S. 1947 – Ramos**

**Purpose:** Subjects all projects financed, in whole or in part, through certain public entities, to hours, wages and supplements contract requirements.

**Party Position:** New York’s prevailing wage law, as it is currently mandated since adopted in the 1938 Constitution Convention, has up until now applied only to construction by a public entity.

This legislation seeks to expand the definition of “public work” to any project receiving state tax credits, tax abatements conferred by local development agencies, public-sector loans and even where the facility is expected to be leased to a public-sector entity.

Should this proposal be passed and signed into law, it would mandate prevailing wage to all private construction receiving any form of support from the state or localities, it would increase the unit cost of labor for all affected projects.

Governor Andrew Cuomo has indicated his support for prevailing wage legislation that he also believes, one of the intents, is to shift work to union labor from nonunion labor.

In New York, a large share of business relocations and industrial expansions currently receive some kind of tax break as an incentive to locate in New York, and should this proposal become law, there would be construction cost increases thereby either making the state less competitive or increase the need for outright subsidies to offset the cost increase.

Either way, the taxpayer is forced to absorb the additional costs. It will be the taxpayer who will have to live with the ripple effects of slowing economic growth.

The Conservative Party urges a NO vote on this proposal that ultimately shifts the increased costs to the worker from the taxpayer.

LM 2019- 05