

Resolution Calling on Virginia Tech to Pay Prevailing Wages

Sponsored by: Sean Casey, Russel Wiley, and Russell Davis

Whereas the Alexandria Democratic Committee previously adopted a resolution calling upon Virginia Tech to adopt labor standards for the Innovation Campus;

Whereas the resolution stated that the labor standards should include use of prevailing wage rates as well as other standards such as hiring local residents and minority- and women-owned contractors;

Whereas Virginia Tech did adopt labor standards that included many positive requirements, including committing to ensuring workers receive “fair pay and benefit standards,” which have yet to be defined¹;

Whereas we consider “fair pay and benefit standards” to be wages and benefits that prevail in the construction industry in our community;

Whereas the Virginia General Assembly adopted a prevailing wage law in its 2020 session, § 2.2-4321.3, that went into effect on May 1,² that requires all state-funded construction projects over \$250,000, including projects by institutions of higher education, to pay prevailing wage rates;

Whereas the failure of Virginia Tech to pay prevailing wage rates on the construction of the Innovation Campus would be a violation of the spirit of the law; and

Whereas the consequences of paying substandard wages would be felt most by the vulnerable immigrant workers in our community. Now, therefore, be it—

Resolved that the Alexandria Democratic Committee hereby calls upon Virginia Tech to live up to its commitment to the community and to require its contractors to pay prevailing rates to workers on its Innovation Campus construction.

¹ WT Labor Standards and Community Outreach_VT ICAB PDF

² <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title2.2/chapter43/section2.2-4321.3/>