

Dear Austin Council Member,

We write this letter to request your support in favor of Item #53 on the Austin City Council Agenda for January 27<sup>th</sup>, which is a resolution to initiate an ordinance addressing wage theft and misclassification of workers in the construction industry. If you have already co-sponsored the resolution, we want to thank you for standing with Austin construction workers who work every day to build America's fastest growing city.

As you may know, Texas construction workers are forced to endure the worst abuses from wage theft and worker misclassification in the nation. These many incidents of unpaid wages and workers illegally being classified as independent contractors instead of "employees" leads to the loss of benefits such as unemployment insurance, workers compensation job safety insurance, and Social Security benefits leaving government to bear the burden of workers relying on public assistance to survive.

Thank you for your support of this important item. We look forward to working with you in the days ahead. Please let us know if you have question by contacting Rene Lara at (512) 627-1719. Thanks again for your support.

In Solidarity, Central Texas Building and Construction Trades Council and Affiliated Unions & Allies