

Committees:
Economic Development, Chairman
Ways & Means



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René O. Oliveira
Texas House of Representatives
District 37

Opinion Committee
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July 24, 1997

The Honorable Dan Morales
Attorney General of Texas
209 W. 14th St.
Austin, Tx. 78701

RQ-957

FILE # ML-39685-97
I.D. # 39685
OPEN RECORDS DIVISION

Re: Attorney General's Opinion Request re. wages by A-BAR Electric
on the Bolin Science Hall Project at Midwestern State University

Dear General Morales:

My colleague, Representative John Hirschi of Wichita Falls, has requested my help as Chair of the House Economic Development Committee in obtaining an Attorney General's Opinion. I submit this request in his behalf.

Enclosed please find correspondence from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 681 of Wichita Falls outlining their concerns about complaints which they have received from workers about wages being paid by A-BAR Electric on the Bolin Science Hall Project at Midwestern State University. Apparently, this project is subject to Texas Government Code, Title 10, Chapter 2258, which requires the payment of prevailing wage rates.

Mr. Jim Musgrove with the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers filed a complaint with Midwestern, but the University felt Chapter 2258 did not apply and, thus, they did not address their complaint. Mr. Musgrove filed a second complaint and, after Midwestern's investigation and research of the law, they again concluded that no violation occurred.

I, therefore, request on behalf of Representative Hirschi and his district that you investigate this matter and issue an opinion on questions that have been raised about Chapter 2258 as it applies to the Bolin Science Hall Project at Midwestern. It would be very unfair for workers not to receive proper wages due to a lack of understanding of this law.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

René O. Oliveira

Representative René O. Oliveira
Chairman,
House Economic Development Committee