

Unpaid Wage Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jefferson S. Burton

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions relating to wages.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▸ removes the requirement that an employee make a demand in writing 15 days before bringing a suit for wages; and

▸ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

34-27-1, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 365

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **34-27-1** is amended to read:

34-27-1 . Reasonable amount -- Taxed as costs.

[Whenever a mechanic, artisan, miner, laborer, servant, or other employee shall have cause to bring suit for wages earned and due according to the terms of that individual's employment and shall establish by the decision of the court that the amount for which the plaintiff has brought suit is justly due, and that a demand has been made in writing at least 15 days before suit was brought for a sum not to exceed the amount so found due, then it shall be the duty of the court before which the case shall be tried to allow to the plaintiff a reasonable attorneys' fee in addition to the amount found due for wages, to be taxed as costs of suit.] If a mechanic, artisan, miner, laborer, servant, or other employee has cause to bring suit for wages earned and due according to the terms of that individual's employment and brings an action in a court with jurisdiction, the court shall:

- 32 (1) establish the amount that the plaintiff is due; and
- 33 (2) award attorney fees, to be taxed as costs of suit.

34 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

35 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.