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Workers Protesting Out-Of-State Job Hiring

Posted Thursday, October 21, 2010; 11:23 AM | [View Comments](#) | [Post Comment](#)
Updated Thursday, October 21, 2010; 12:50 PM

West Virginia contractors claim the School Building Authority has violated its own "18 point" guidelines for hiring contractors.

By Matthew Earle
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CHARLESTON -- Their signs read, "Local Jobs for Local Workers."

Construction workers from across the region gathered outside the West Virginia School Building Authority headquarters Thursday, to protest a lack of support for local jobs.

Workers claim the SBA has allowed Frye Roofing to hire workers from North Carolina to do roofing work on West Virginia public schools, such as Midland Elementary School in Elkins and Stratton Elementary School in Beckley.

"They (Frye Roofing) have signed an agreement with the Department of Labor to repay \$113,000 in back wages and we feel that the School Building Authority should be using companies that employ local workers," said Wayne Rebich.

The SBA was unavailable for comment.

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