Economic Roundtable Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Request for IRB Approval

Must be completed for all projects involving human subjects

244 S. San Pedro, #506 Los Angeles, CA 90015 Phone: 213-892-8104

Follow the format shown below to provide requested information

TITLE	ILWU Research Study				
PRINCIPAL	Daniel Flaming, President, Economic Roundtable				
INVESTIGATOR					
FUNDING	International Longshore & Warehouse Union Coast Longshore Division (ILWU)				
LEVEL OF	Indicate the level of IRB review you are requesting for this project:				
REVIEW	☐ Level I: Exempt Research and Review (no foreseeable risk)				
	X Level II: Expedited Research and Review (minimal risk)				
	☐ Level III: Research and Full Board Review (more than minimal risk or				
	protected subjects)				
	The expedited review procedure may not be used where identification of the subjects and/or their responses would reasonably place them at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subject's financial standing, employability, insurability, reputation, or be stigmatizing, unless reasonable and appropriate protections will be implemented so that risks related to invasion of privacy and breach of confidentiality are no greater than minimal.				
SCOPE OF WORK	Layout the project tasks, detailing work processes for this project:				
	The project team covered by this research protocol includes two Economic Roundtable staff – Daniel Flaming and Patrick Burns.				
	Purpose of Study:				
	Investigate the economic benefits generated by the wages earned by ILWU members and assess the trade-offs between these local benefits and the labor-reducing impacts automating terminals at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.				
	Study Population:				
	Approximately 16,879 past and current members of the ILWU.				
	The step that will be carried out in this project that entails using identifiable information about human subjects is to analyze records of ILWU members that include the following data fields:				
	PR Num	DoB	State	2017-Hours	
	Name	Age	Zip Code	2017-Wages	
	Prior Active Code	Prior Local	2014-Hours	2018-Hours	
	Race	First Date Paid	2014-Wages	2018-Wages	
	Current Reg Cat	Last Date Paid	2015-Hours	2019-Hours	
	Prior Reg Cat	Address 1	2015-Wages	2019-Wages	
	Prior Reg Class	Address 2	2016-Hours	2020-Hours	
	Prior Work Exp Prior Reg Port	City	2016-Wages	2020-Wages	

RISK LEVEL

Identify the level of risk that this project will create for human subjects as defined in Section VI of the Economic Roundtable policy on protection of human subjects:

Less than minimal risk

X Minimal Risk

☐ Greater than minimal risk but with direct benefit to subjects

Greater than minimal risk but no direct benefit to subjects

Briefly summarize the facts that support the risk level you have identified. If the study involves greater than minimal risk, identify all direct benefits to the human subjects as well as any additional safeguards.

This is a Level II project, research with minimal risk involving human subjects. Direct benefits may accrue to human subjects through protection of jobs and wages. It is also possible that the findings of this study will benefit other workers whose jobs are threatened by automation.

Economic Roundtable staff will analyze ILWU membership records to aggregate the data at a community level in order to estimate the economic benefit that these workers' wages provide for their communities and also to compare their economic condition to the condition of peers in their communities who are not ILWU members. The Roundtable will only report aggregated, descriptive statistics about workers and not reveal any personal identifying information.

It is recommended that the IRB review this research project as "Level II" because there is minimal risk to the human subjects. Records of ILWU members will be safeguarded and will not be shared with any outside organizations.

The remainder of this study poses no greater than minimal risk to human subjects, because the analysis uses publicly-available data from non-confidential, secondary sources.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Identifiable Health Information:

(1) Do you need to access or use patient/subject identifiable health information (e.g. medical records, mental health information, lab reports, x-rays, tissue samples) for this research study? **NO**

If yes, go to question (2).

If no, you do not need to satisfy HIPAA education requirement.

(2) Have all investigators and individuals authorized to obtain identifiable health information in this study completed an education program regarding federal (HIPAA) and state privacy requirements?

If yes, Please provide certificates of completion and go to question (3).

If no, Your study will not be reviewed until all of the requested information has been provided and your application may be returned to you for completion.

(3) Describe the specific procedures and safeguards that will be used to de-identify health information of human subjects in this project

(Not applicable.)

INFORMED CONSENT	Indicate the type of informed consent that will be utilized in the study. If a waiver of written informed consent is requested a script of the proposed verbal informed consent should be provided. If a waiver of informed consent is requested, please make certain the protocol detail justifies this request.				
	A written informed consent will not be obtained from ILWU members. The General Counsel of the ILWU is acting as the representative of ILWU members and has authorized the Economic Roundtable to have access to member records subject to the terms of the attached Data Security and Confidentiality Agreement.				
LOCATION	Indicate the location where the human subjects involvement will occur.				
	There will not be any direct contact with human subjects to obtain data.				
	Carefully indicate the characteristics of the human subjects that will be involved in the project. When special populations are included or when some or all of the subjects are likely to be vulnerable to coercion or undue influence, indicated what additional safeguards have been included in the study to protect the rights and welfare of these subjects.				
	The population to be studied is longshore, warehouse and clerical workers employed at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach who are members of the ILWU. These are well-paid blue collar workers. Disclosure of member wage information could cause embarrassment.				
REPORTING AND MONITORING	Describe the protocols that will be followed for reporting back to the Institutional Review Board and monitoring data security.				
	The research team will follow all of the procedures set forth in the Economic Roundtable's Confidential Data Management Policy as well as in agreements with organizations providing confidential data.				
	Any study-related events that endanger human subjects or adverse data security events will be promptly reported to the IRB as well as any other organizations whose data is affected. Reports on protection of human subjects, data security and project design will be submitted to the IRB semi-annually or more often if requested.				
ATTACHMENTS	HMENTS The following additional documentation supports this request for approval: 1) Copy of the funding agreement with the International Low Warehouse Union Coast Longshore Division 2) Data Security and Confidentiality Agreement for Using Information of ILWU Workers for Research Purposes				
\Box	all C.	January 24, 2024			
Signature of Principal Investigator		January 21, 2021 Date of Signature			
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Daniel Flaming Print Name of Principal Investigator		President Title			