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### A model of public sector wage determination $\hat{w}^{\dagger}$

Ronald G. Ehrenberg <sup>1</sup> ... Gerald S. Goldstein <sup>2</sup>

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#### Abstract

The paper presents an empirical model of wage determination in the public sector that leads to the specification of a system of interrelated wage equations for municipal employees, which allows for occupational and geographic interdependence of wages. The model also considers the influence of public employee unions, municipal government form, and monopsony power of local governments on the wages of municipal employees. Several variants of the derived system of equations are estimated based upon 1967 cross-section data for 478 cities, and the policy implications of the results are discussed.

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- <sup>â†</sup> A preliminary version of this paper was presented at the December 1973 Econometric Society Meetings.
- <sup>1</sup> Present address: Department of Economics and Labor Economics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853.
- <sup>2</sup> Without implicating them for what remains, we wish to thank Orley Ashenfelter, Dan Hamermesh, John Pencavel, Mel Reder, and the editor for their comments on that version. Our research has been supported by grants from the Manpower Administration, U. S. Department of Labor, and Northwestern University's Urban Systems Engineering Center and University Research Committee.

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