

Hello,

As a small business owner in Roseburg, Oregon I can not afford this proposal! I have employees (6FT/5PT) that have been with us 17 + years....

For years we prided ourselves with providing our FT employees with Health Insurance that we paid 100 percent. That had to change due to the economy AND the complaints that we received from employees that that co-pay was too much (imagine that one)! So we stopped that & reimbursed our employees hourly to equal what we paid per month for their Health Insurance.

We have a great Personal Leave Policy that we provide our FT employees (96 hours for employees with us 7 or more years....we have 4/6 employees that receive that benefit). Now I am required to give sick leave to our PT employees.

I can't imagine what this wage hike will do to the restaurant business???? A local restaurant owner shared that most of her waitresses are PT Moms....who enjoy the added cash but can also be with their kiddos. What will this do to the prices on the menu? People will stop coming due to the cost and those PT moms won't have a job.

I really do not understand the rationale here. Minimum wage is for entry level workers, NOT for individuals to live on. I would hope that our legislature was filled with competent professionals that could come up with a plan that encouraged additional education/training individuals to move thru the work force & increase their income accordingly.

Is the fast food industry driving this cause? Those franchises make millions of dollars & most definitely do not require brain surgeons to complete the work. Well, I am not a franchise, I am a family owned business that highly values our employees and their families. I am responsible to them and their families. We go out of our way for each of them in many different ways and pay them each a wage according to their respective responsibilities.

Please, do not put me in a position to have to consider having to let some of my employees go! It's that simple, because if I can't afford it, no one else will be able to either. Then where will the unemployment rate be?

Sincerely,
Jayne Maley
Associated Buyers, LLC