

Dear House Business & Labor Committee:

I am writing to *urge* a **NO** vote on the minimum wage hike legislation.

As a small business owner, I would not be in a position to pay an employee \$15.00 an hour and pay myself enough to sustain a household and medical insurance. I would be laying off my employee.

Think about what this would be doing to the small business'. According to a SBA report in 2015, "Oregon's small businesses employed OVER 1/2 or **757,132** of the state's private workforce in 2012. (Source: SUSB)" Other statistics:

346,753 small business in Oregon

85,597 small business with employees

261,156 small business without employees

That is a lot of small business' that will be affected by this proposed legislation.

I have an elderly mother in memory care. If the employees receive a wage increase, don't you think that this increase will be passed on????!!!! It will and medicare and my mother, who doesn't receive enough as it is, will be forced to pay more. (Children of elderly in alternative care may have to fork out money because their parent(s) doesn't receive enough)

Senior citizens and other people on limited income, grocery cost is going to go up and up, payments to doctors and medical facilities, utilities, rent, etc. These citizens do not have the money for this type of increase in living.

How about rents - do you think those will remain stable - NO! We already have enough people that are homeless and on the street. Having the citizens of Oregon deal with MORE crime, tents on our streets, parks and filth that is left by the homeless. Is the government ready to see another influx of people living on the street and the consequences? I already see enough!

As a recap:

Is the government ready to see:

Higher costs

Higher unemployment

Higher homeless

Higher number of business' leaving Oregon because of this proposed piece of legislation?

Please vote **NO** on the minimum wage hike!

Thank you

Vicki

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Vicki Zook

Owner - A to Zook Bookkeeping