

**Subject: No On Senate Bill 1532**

Hello All Involved In the Vote about SB 1532

I urge you to vote no on this bill or any bill to raise the minimum wage to try to make it a living wage.

Minimum wage and living wage should not be the same thing. If a person wants a living wage, they have to work for it by getting an education and/or job experience and job performance. It should be not be attempted to be artificially created by government mandate. I suspect there are already plenty of government programs to help people get a better education and job.

Frankly, it is beyond me that state government has us at a point that I even have to write and ask you to not raise the minimum wage. I could give you a list of talking points that I have read on the issue, all of which are reasonable points, but I am sure others will delineate those. To me it is pretty basic economics, if employers are forced to pay a higher minimum wage, ultimately the price of the end product or service will cost the consumer more. Ultimately other wage ranges will want a higher wage to make up for the higher cost of goods and services. It will just become a vicious cycle. So the people who would get the increased minimum wage raise will get a bigger pay check, they may presumably pay more taxes and they will presumably pay more for housing, goods and services. Seems like a wash to me.

My employee makes well above minimum wage, so it will not directly impact me in what I pay my employee in the short term. When however the prices of all goods and services increase, he may have less disposable income and at that point he may want a raise just to keep his finances even with where he was before the minimum wage was raised. I suspect that what I pay more for goods and services for my business, so I will pass those on to my customers, who will probably in turn pass those on to their customers. As I noted above, a vicious cycle.

Thanks for considering my thoughts.

Ray Woodmansee

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