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To whom it may concern:

Lil' Pantry LLC's employee approximately 180 employees in Southern Oregon. The average wage to these employees is from \$9.25hr-\$31.25hr. Minimum wage was designed to be an entry level training wage for employees and was never designed to be a living wage!

In most companies if the employee is worth their salt he/she is escalated at a rapid pace to a wage that will retain he/she and make them a valuable asset to the company they work for. Raising minimum wage will cost jobs! Just check around the nation to those places who have done so!! I have heard of none of them having any success.

With the health reform act and a raise to \$15hr min. wage would cause my company to down size and reduce at least 60% the jobs we now provide to keep from going out of business. The raising of minimum wage (which Oregon is the 2nd highest in the nation already) would do just the opposite of what it is intended to do which is get people into entry level positions so they can flourish in the work place and make more monies. When a company has to pay such an exuberant entry level wage it hurts all whom have already been trained are in pertinent positions as there is only so much percentage of your companies business that can go to payroll which in turn keeps their earnings to a minimum.

Please let employees dictate what there wage should be by their performance not mandate that they be paid a wage that will just hurt the businesses (by reducing the amount of jobs) that are employing them as well as the economy.

Sincerely,

Dale C. Hurst
Owner/Managing Member

