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Sent: Wednesday, April 08, 2015 11:23 PM

To: Germer Matthew

Subject: Please distribute to committee members in senate (bills dealing with Minimum wage proposals)

Mathew Germer:

Please distribute this testimony opposing the proposed minimum wage proposals to the members of the Senate Workforce Committee immediately.

Attempting to artificially raise the costs of doing business is a desperate attempt to ignore the reality, and benefits of, a free market economy. Naturally, the claim is that this will "help" those at the lower wage levels. That is nothing but a cruel and contemptible lie.

By imposing minimum wage rates that exceed the value of the added value of that labor, government effectively destroys the very benefits to individuals, businesses, and consumers that it claims to support! It's clear that the logical and time tested dynamics of economics has been overtaken by goofy ideological elitism that if allowed to become law will certainly reduce employment, raise risks for the businesses that manage to survive, and and discourage workers who have dwindling opportunities to work, businesses that will be forced to reduce employment or change how they deliver services/products, and cause higher government mandated costs to be passed along by remaining businesses to the customers who may change their habits accordingly.

Here are some of the unintended consequences of allowing government imposing unrealistic "ideological" based minimums on victims who happen to reside in Oregon...

1- Businesses will be motivated, naturally, to find ways to reduce employment of low skilled labor (which is where these jobs are found). In order to survive, the remaining labor must be more productive.. or, the enterprise will be forced to change the products and or services it offers to remain viable. It's hard enough to compete in the marketplace without the government - who risks nothing- coming in to dictate arbitrary rules and additional costs that actively reduce opportunities for workers and increase risks for entrepreneurs, Who benefits?

2- These mandates continue to erode "training level" opportunities for young people. Entry level workers must be productive enough to provide a return to the entrepreneur who uses his/her skill, finances, time, energy and wits to maneuver the tide of ever increasing government mandates and regulations and competition to stay in business. Most government "lawmakers" seem to have a very visceral and illogical contempt for entrepreneurs/small business. They treat small business as a convenient whipping boy... and it's very short sighted and counter productive for all involved.

3- Entry level jobs are just that.. entry level. People need to learn to improve their skills and value- those who make that effort find terrific opportunities either within that business or in related businesses that recognize the value of their skills. The real world DOES recognize and reward those who demonstrate the attributes that any business desires... skill reliability, congeniality, promptness. Government interfering with their opportunities is simply wrong and a clear sign of elitism that overflows into indifference to the real plight of those who are trying to get a start.

The list of unintended consequences of government regulated wages could fill volumes.. Regulating wages under the schemes proposed is simply bad for everyone. No Oregonian should be subjected to this nonsense.

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