



Oregon State Chamber of Commerce

April 13, 2015

House Business & Labor Committee
Senate Workforce Committee

Re: Proposals to increase statewide minimum wage

Dear House Chair Holvey and Senate Chair Dembrow,

The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce represents 600+ local businesses and we support Oregon's current minimum wage law that indexes the minimum wage each year based on inflation.

We ask that you oppose efforts to increase Oregon's minimum wage further. Increases in the minimum wage would hurt local businesses, result in fewer businesses and jobs, and would not benefit our community.

Oregon's present wage is currently \$2.00 more than the Federal Minimum Wage. Oregon is second state highest behind Washington State.

Oregon's historically high minimum wage has not yielded economic gains for Oregon workers.

Fewer than 1 in 6 Oregon minimum wage earners are employed full time.

As a business operator, the \$15.00 per hour wage would drastically cut into the operating profits that allow us to continue to hire more workers. If the wage is increased, I feel that some employees would have to be laid off, thus causing the tax based revenue to drop. The truth to be said, it will impact small business operations throughout Oregon. There is no real feasible need to increase Oregon's minimum wage.

Sincerely,
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