

Rebecca Roth ~~SB~~ 1532 in OPPOSITION

Minimum wage always drives up the cost of products. Every business has to comply with the law, and so it raises the cost of every product produced in OR. more expensive.

Even though we may be able to retain a job, the money we earn is eaten up by products that cost more. For those who lose their jobs, and have a limited amount of money from the state for their purchases, they are HURT by everything costing more.

Seniors on a fixed income are also hurt.

Businesses in competition with each other are driven to import products from other areas not affected by Oregon's high minimum wage--which has led the nation for many years.

If minimum wage hikes actually help Oregonians, we need to make it much higher. But it doesn't help.

In fact, years ago Democrats already hurt Oregon's thriving strawberry industry by imposing hourly minimums on an industry that sells by the pound.

We no longer have a thriving strawberry industry, and Democrats don't seem to be bothered by how they have driven a whole industry out of Oregon. How many more industries will be closed down with this arbitrary change.

Walmart is one of the businesses that has looked overseas to find products at a lower cost in China, where we have no ability to help those workers get more money for their work.

The committee that will be appointed to oversee this will probably be driven politically, much like the other appointed committees that drain resources from Oregon citizens, into Democrat hands.

We DO NOT need a new committee to oversee what should be handled in a free market.