

SB 1532 2/2/2016

We already face one of the highest minimum wages in the nation, in addition to **the cpi index we have already**. I guess, Governor Brown, you did not understand, "No new wage increases"! Please take some time and try to understand what Eastern Oregon is facing. We are not the same animal as the Willamette Valley.

A good analogy is the frog and the pot of water. You can try to put the frog in boiling water (the big and fast jump of minimum wages to \$15.50 in 3 years) This immediately kills the frog! Or you can add warm water to the pot and add the frog and keep adding warmer water (your plan to jump the minimum wage slower). Eventually the end results will be the same. The frog will die! (That represents the small business owners of Oregon)!

Minimum wage was never meant to be a sustainable family wage. However I have heard young people say they won't need to go to college now, if the minimum wage goes to \$15. In addition, what hourly wage do you pay the skilled workforce?

Please do not force a higher minimum wage rate on the whole state of Oregon. Rural Oregon is fine with the minimum wage law that is in place.

Yes, you have a powerful office so please use this power to protect **all** of us.

Thank you,
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