

House Business and Labor Committee:

Please vote no on the Oregon Minimum Wage Bill. Our business in the small town, Stayton, Oregon, will suffer tremendously if we have to pay higher wages. We currently employ 5 employees in our small establishment. Our employees earn minimum wage, but they also make an average of minimum \$40 up to \$300 a DAY in tips. Our employees are unskilled workers and make a good living wage. Mark works as a skilled laborer 40 hours a week making \$20.00 an hour (no tips). Our employees make more money on a 6-8 hour shift than he makes at \$20.00 an hour for 8 hours. If minimum wage is raised, Mark will not receive a raise as he already makes over minimum wage. However, employees like ours will. Is this really the answer for Oregon? We have owned our business for 2 ½ years and just recently had to raise our prices slightly to try to offset labor increases we have **already** incurred. Our regular patrons notice and they become unhappy. It's already hard to compete with big chain companies in Salem. Our prices are lower and our customer base is smaller. The "Dream" of owning our own business can soon become a "Nightmare".
Please listen to the small voices of Oregon and Vote NO.

Best regards,

Mark and Christina Waters
Cheers on 1st
Stayton, OR