

**From:** M. Harris [mailto:mharris1@myfairpoint.net]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 08, 2017 3:40 PM

**Subject:** Public comments for raising minimum wage

I support raising the minimum wage. It's time we did something, really did something to change the poverty statistics in this country. The gap between the wealthy and poor continues to widen and I see raising the minimum wage as a logical step in combatting this growing and immoral state of affairs. When companies don't pay their employees a living wage, the taxpayers have to make up the difference in programs and services for the poor. It's apparent that the administration in Washington won't be raising the minimum wage, so it's up to the great little state of Vermont to do the right thing. In addition, I can appreciate how this could initially be a burden on small businesses, but there has to be some way we can support them as this is implemented. It's time to start winning the war on poverty!

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