

From: Kelly Stettner [mailto:blackrivercleanup@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 9:08 AM
To: Ron Wild
Subject: Fw: Testimony for Minimum Wage increase

Good morning, sir; I'm not able to come and testify in person at this hearing, but would like to extend my opinion as a wage-earner in Vermont.

I've worked for the same corporation since 1994. Through my diligence and dedication, I've consistently earned a small raise every year, and now make \$18.55 per hour. When the minimum wage becomes \$15 per hour (within the next 5 years), what will my 25+ years on the job be worth? This goes for all the 100+ co-workers...my boss is going to have to raise ALL our wages to be fair to those of us with seniority; that's going to mean he is likely to need to raise the price of his services to our clients, who are all telecommunications companies. They, in turn, are going to need to raise the cost of THEIR services (cable T.V. and fiber optics) to compensate...the ripple effect is endless. Before you know it, the cost of everything is passed on to the consumer who is earning \$15 an hour, and the new minimum wage doesn't keep up with the cost of living.

The cost of goods and services is directly affected by the cost of doing business; if you keep raising the minimum wage artificially and quickly, the economic impacts are going to be self-defeating and devastating.

Please reconsider this.

Sincerely
Kelly Stettner
Springfield VT