



NEW MEXICO BUSINESS COALITION

We asked NMBC followers what they thought about the numerous proposed statewide mandated wage increases. Here's what they had to say:

"When a person owns a business, they understand why a minimum wage is destructive to any economy. It is a hold-over from the time that price controls were put into effect to fix the economy. It didn't work then and it doesn't work now. Because it doesn't work and harms small businesses, the fact that it still exists tells me that it is a tool being used by politicians to stay in office. Until the people are educated enough to know how an economy actually works, they will continue to support the idea that they have the power to tell business owners how to run their businesses. NM is becoming a miniature California."

"\$15 MW = 38% price increase
\$9 MW = ?%"

"Minimum wage (MW) should be eliminated. Minimum wage increase unemployment every time. When MW goes up local prices for food, dining out, and other services increases and consumer buying goes down. The person getting the wage increase gets back in the same boat.

Minimum wage jobs covers a small part of the population. Those jobs weren't meant to support a family. Most MW jobs are service jobs and doesn't require a lot of skill. It doesn't make any sense to pay someone with low skill sets a high wage. Most small employers do not have a high profit margin and cannot afford the cost increases. Several businesses in my area have laid-off employees because our city raised the MW rate.

'WAGES SHOULD BE BASED ON SUPPLY AND DEMAND.' Free market principles work every time."

"NO!"

"New Mexico suffers from a lack of skilled workers which is one of the reasons it does not attract businesses to the State. Raising wage minimum, while it helps in the short run with a few extra dollars, does not solve the skills problem nor does it encourage an upward mobility.

New Mexicans have to get serious about educating its youth and preparing them for jobs that are meaningful and provide a living wage. Raising the minimum wage is a political feel good maneuver – it does not solve the deep-rooted problem of the State's high school dropout rate, lack of vocational high schools, teen pregnancy, and drugs to name a few.

The business community and the State Legislature should work together – they can start with tax breaks for businesses who provide skills building or tuition reimbursement to their employees to close the skills gap in New Mexico. Improve our schools!!! (what a concept)

Minimum wage increase is a small band-aid for a very large wound."

"Yes, raise minimum wage. It has been proven to help states with taxes, unemployment, etc."



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"Wendy's restaurant has already announced they will put in food kiosks in 1000 stores by the end of 2017. McDonald's is planning for kiosks in their restaurants too. A minimum wage increase is merely going to mean that minimum wage jobs will disappear. Pretty sure people would rather keep their job then have a machine replace them."

"Suppose a man is stuck in a deep hole. There is a sort of ladder, but he's having trouble getting started going up it. Along comes a Liberal/Progressive.... who says , "Here, let me help you -- I'll knock out the bottom two rungs! Pretty stupid, right? Almost as stupid as knocking out entry-level jobs by raising the minimum wage."

"No to raising minimum wage. Legislators do not have enough knowledge to decide what is needed and where. One rate over ALL NM? Makes no sense. Workers should build their skills/knowledge to earn a higher wage."

"...(Politicians) always look for the most popular (for their base) and easy fixes which are temporary. Minimum wage is an entry level into the work force not a living wage. All of us who have moved up the ladder know our first jobs were to get us into the work force and learn skills and look for opportunities to advance. How dare the government tell businesses especially small business what to pay a worker without consulting with the job makers about problems because of tax burdens and regulations. They never consider the small business who has to on a constant basis look for ways to stay above water. They don't care some business owners miss paying themselves to keep the business afloat, struggle to get financial aid or struggle to make ends meet in this economy. The problem starts with the worker who has no skills, lack of education, and lack of job history. Our problem starts with the poor public school education they receive and moves with them into the work force where the democrats try to solve the problem. I would say most private school graduates don't have as much of a problem at higher education and entering the workforce. We also need more businesses and less government meddling to make the economy grow which will lead to higher paying jobs provided the worker has the skills, education, and training to meet the demands. Another factor is criminal background checks on applicants and I think that is why the democrats want to do away with back ground checks. I do background and interviews for employers and you would be shocked with the pool they have to pick from. There is also the immigrant and language barrier issue who no one really wants to address. If you every want to sit down and talk let me know."