



**NEW MEXICO
BUSINESS COALITION**

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RE: Oppose HB 110 Phased Minimum Wage Increase

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

The New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) represents hundreds of businesses and thousands of New Mexicans. Our focus is to make New Mexico a better place to do business so that New Mexicans have jobs and can provide for their families.

NMBC strongly opposes HB 110 Phased Minimum Wage Increase. The state recently passed a minimum wage mandate and just saw an increase from \$9.35 an hour to \$10.50 an hour beginning January 1st of this year. That's a 12% increase while few, if any local businesses have been lucky enough to achieve any revenue increase this year. In fact, the list of local business closures in recent months, due mostly to COVID 19, is long and growing each week. Increasing wages yet again will only further pile on requirements that many New Mexico businesses can ill afford. There is no doubt that this measure will cause more businesses to reduce job opportunities for those who need them most.

NMBC's position is that blanket mandates are unnecessary and a growing burden on small business owners who are trying to maintain or grow their operations. This will hurt, not help, New Mexico families.

New Mexico cannot afford this right now in light of the extended pandemic lockdown and we urge you to say 'NO' on HB 110 Phased Minimum Wage Increase.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carla J. Sonntag".

Carla J. Sonntag
President