

Resolution No. 67

Submitted by:

The Honorable Edwin M. Lee, Mayor of San Francisco
The Honorable Paul Soglin, Mayor of Madison, WI
The Honorable Greg Stanton, Mayor of Phoenix, AZ
The Honorable Michael Nutter, Mayor of Philadelphia, PA
The Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor of Los Angeles
The Honorable Jonathan Rothschild, Mayor of Tucson
The Honorable Charlie Hales, Mayor of Portland, OR
The Honorable Michael Brennan, Mayor of Portland, ME
The Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Mayor of Baltimore, MD
The Honorable Bill deBlasio, Mayor of New York City
The Honorable Angel Taveras, Mayor of Providence
The Honorable Francis Slay, Mayor of St. Louis, MO
The Honorable Michael Coleman, Mayor of Columbus, OH
The Honorable Rahm Emanuel, Mayor of Chicago
The Honorable Ed Murray, Mayor of Seattle
The Honorable Kasim Reed, Mayor of Atlanta, GA

IN SUPPORT OF RAISING THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

1. **WHEREAS**, the nation's mayors are committed to providing economic growth and opportunity within their cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the growing inequality gap has left middle and working class families with less income to consume, leading to a decrease in demand and the shackling of the nation's economic growth; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the federal minimum wage, currently at \$7.25 an hour, would be over \$10.50 if it had kept up with inflation since 1968; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the federal minimum wage would be over \$18 if it had kept up with worker productivity; and
5. **WHEREAS**, a full-time worker making the federal minimum wage and raising two children earns just \$15,080 a year, \$4,000 below the poverty line for a family of three; and
6. **WHEREAS**, a proposal to raise the federal minimum wage to \$10.10 would raise earnings for nearly 28 million workers by \$35 billion; and
7. **WHEREAS**, increasing the spending ability of minimum wage workers through raising the federal minimum wage to \$10.10 would increase the demand for goods and services and generate \$22 billion in economic activity; and

8. **WHEREAS**, more than 600 economists, including seven Nobel laureates, signed a letter supporting an increase in the minimum wage, saying, “the weight of evidence now show[s] that increases in the minimum wage have had little or no negative effect on the employment of minimum-wage workers, even during times of weakness in the labor market”; and
9. **WHEREAS**, business owners realize the value of raising the minimum wage, with 82 percent of small business owners already paying their employees more than the minimum wage; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the federal government would save \$46 billion over ten years in spending on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as food stamps, if the federal minimum wage were raised to \$10.10; and
11. **WHEREAS**, women, who are nearly two-thirds of all workers paid the minimum wage or less, would benefit tremendously from an increase in the minimum wage; and
12. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long promoted an agenda that would build an economy that works for everyone,
13. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby respectfully urges Congress to:
 - Raise the current federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour to \$10.10 per hour; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors is prepared to work with the Administration and Congress to further address the economic challenges facing our nation’s cities; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors supports state and local government efforts to set their own minimum wages above the federal minimum wage to help its lowest paid workers keep pace with the rising cost of living.

Projected Cost: Unknown