

Re: Public Hearing Alert - Labor Committee - This Thursday at 2pm - Min Wage Labor History Educational Mandate, etc. What do you think?

Feedback from a client as follows: On Jan 30, 2013, at 2:13 PM, Jack Muirhead <jjmuirjr@aol.com> wrote: I think you should speak.

This legislature needs to know they are crushing small business. They make no distinction between high labor-intensive business, like mine, (a Burger King Franchise Store) and business with one or two employees. This proposal, year after year, also crushes the spirit of entrepreneurs who provide jobs and most importantly, opportunity. My average hourly wage is over \$10, but we start people at min. so we and they, can judge their willingness to learn and perform. By increasing the min. it diminishes the reward of harder working employees who earned a raise and now see the compression between min. and the higher rate they earned.

The argument about this stimulating the economy is bogus. If fewer people work, because this costs businesses and their products more, then this becomes a drag on the economy. This year is as bad as any previous year. Everyone I talk to is struggling and this would make survival problematic for lots of small businesses. The legislators need to know we cannot continue to bear the costs of sick leave and other regulatory pressures. I will not expand because of feeling the deck is totally stacked against our success.

Go tell them they are hindering the State recovery and employment and population growth of zero is in partly because of the anti-business attitude. These proposals sound good but actually end up hurting the people they purport to help. If they really think people need more money, then they should help to create more jobs and opportunity. If people really need more money maybe they should use general funds and let every tax payer help, instead of putting the burden on small business. Let market forces determine the rate and have social policy supplement if necessary. If ALL taxpayers paid the bill for low wage assistance then that would not impact job creation for small labor-intensive business. It would also make everyone invested not just burdening us.

Sorry for the rant.

Wednesday, January 30, 2013 5:32 PM
From: "Jack Muirhead" <jjmuirjr@aol.com>
To: rickwillard@sbcglobal.net

Quote me all you like. Hopefully most legislators will understand this economy is not getting better and adding to the burden will backfire. All the money spent on the "First Five" is unfortunately money not available to those of us who work hard, employ people with limited skills and who need jobs. Also the feeling that we can afford this is not true. All costs are going up. Property taxes, insurance, both P&C and health. Unlike some areas of the country there is no market growth. When the population does not increase all we do is try to steal share from our local competitors. Not a good formula for growth.

Respectfully submitted: Jack Muirhead
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