

**Bianca, Pam**

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**From:** Joshua Katz <jalankatz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 21, 2014 12:37 AM  
**To:** LABTestimony  
**Subject:** HB 5279

To whom it may concern:

I regret that I cannot attend the public hearing regarding HB 5279 on 2/27. I am submitting written testimony in lieu of attendance.

I am writing in strong opposition to HB 5279. Individuals of impaired capacity are unlikely to have a marginal product of labor equal to or greater than the minimum wage. This bill, therefore, would result in mass unemployment among this already disadvantaged group. By setting the price of their labor higher than its value, they will be priced out of the labor market. This will have a disproportionate impact on this particular group: the general unimpaired population is not significantly unemployed as a result of minimum wage laws precisely because most have a marginal product greater than the minimum wage. We can imagine the impact on employment of raising the minimum wage to \$100 per hour - extending the minimum wage to this previously exempted group would have a similar impact on those of impaired capacity.

Thank you,

Joshua A. Katz  
Planning Commission, Town of Westbrook (L)  
Justice of the Peace, Town of Westbrook (L)  
Chair, Department of Mathematics, Oxford Academy, Westbrook, CT  
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