



**Public Hearing Testimony of  
Sharon Palmer, Commissioner  
Department of Labor  
Labor and Public Employees Committee  
February 18, 2014**

Good Afternoon Senator Osten, Representative Tercyak, Senator Markley, Representative Smith and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony regarding **Governor's Bill No. 32, AAC Working Families' Wages**. My name is Sharon Palmer and I am the Labor Commissioner.

I am here to speak in strong support of this proposed bill because it seeks to increase the minimum wage in Connecticut. Such a bill would provide Connecticut workers a wage that would allow them to better support themselves and their families.

Even President Obama has embraced the need for an increase of the federal minimum wage. Connecticut remains at the forefront of recognizing the need for livable wages for its residents. I am proud to be part of that long history.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify here today and I am available to answer any questions.