



Testimony of Lori J. Pelletier, President Connecticut AFL-CIO
Before the Labor and Public Employees Committee
March 3rd, 2016

Senator Gomes and Representative Tercyak and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, on behalf of the over 200,000 union members and their families in our great state we present written testimony on:

H.B. No. 5370 (RAISED) AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM FAIR WAGE. (LAB)

We **support** this legislation and commend this committee for raising this bill. Every dime of the increase in minimum wage adjustments goes directly into the local economy and with added consumption business sells more product, provides more services and that is good for tax receipts at all levels. Since the 1980's workers' real wages have declined while Wall Street and corporate America has reaped mega profits. This bill takes money which would be off shored, given out in executive compensation and instead goes to Main Street. The entire nation is highly aware of the income inequality of the past 40 years and families on both side of the aisle agree workers need a raise.

As always, I thank you for holding this public hearing.

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