Middlesex Chamber

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March 3, 2016

Labor and Public Employees Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3800
Hartford, CT 06106

Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee:

The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic business organization with over 2,175 members that employ over 50,000 people in and around our service area. Our chamber represents businesses from all industry sectors and of all sizes, from Fortune 500 companies, to micro businesses.

The purpose of this letter today is to respectfully oppose H.B. No. 5370, An Act Increasing the Minimum Fair Wage. There is serious concern within the Middlesex business community about this and related measures. A spike in the minimum wage to $15.00 by 2022 will raise costs for the business community and will hamper hiring efforts in a number of key industry sectors in our state at a very critical time for Connecticut's economy.

The General Assembly must seek way to stimulate hiring and economic growth, and this bill runs counter to those goals.

The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce urges rejection of H.B. No. 5370.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on this important issue.

393 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457-3309 • 860-347-6924 • Fax 860-346-1043
http://www.middlesexchamber.com • Email: info@middlesexchamber.com
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