

Anderson, Bryan

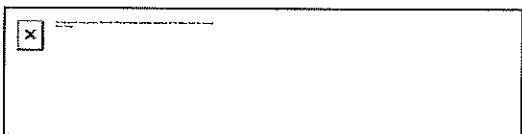
From: Ken Brooks <ken@river-design.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2019 7:18 PM
To: LABTestimony
Subject: written testimony for HB 5004

I believe a minimum wage hike would be a mistake for Connecticut. The minimum wage is already well above the federal minimum. Legislators should stop and think about the employers who would have to foot this bill. Believe me, it's hard enough to run a business without increasing these burdens.

Too many Connecticut legislators think that raising taxes, raising minimum wages, adding tolls, etc. will solve the state's fiscal problems. The truth is these things drive both businesses and residents away thereby REDUCING tax revenue. Keep it up and the whole thing will grind to a halt. Great, you can make \$12 or \$13/hr... too bad nobody's hiring. Sure, you could keep increasing the tax rate... raise it to 50%! But when everyone leaves, 50% of \$0 is still \$0.

Take a look at the national averages. Connecticut has been near the very bottom of economic recovery for quite a while now. It's NOT the time to make things more difficult for businesses.

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