

Bussa Orchards

Quality Fruit

Peaches - Apples - Pears

SO. GLASTONBURY, CONN.

March 7, 2019

To whom it may concern,

We are writing this letter because of the detrimental harm the minimal Wage increase will have to our small family farm, Bussa Orchards. The substantial increase of wages will cause severe economic strain to our farm and our hopes of continuing to farm in the future.

Bussa Orchards is a small, family farm in the state of Connecticut. We have been farming the same land for 100 years. At our orchard we grow Apples, Peaches, Pears and Plums. We are extremely proud of growing our business over the years and continuing the legacy of our family farm.

But at the same time, ensuring that the farm continues, has become financially challenging. As the fourth-generation of Bussa Orchards, it is increasingly difficult to make a living farming. Every year the costs of doing business increases, while what little profits we make, decrease. Adding this additional hardship; the minimal increase, it will significantly hurt our farm, the wage increase could put our family farm out of business.

We hope to continue farming Bussa Orchards for years to come, but with the passing of the minimal wage, our future looks bleak. We honestly don't know how we can continue farming; the cost is too great. We are asking will you reconsider not raising the wage increase because of the irreparable harm it will cause family farms like ours.

Sincerely,

Douglas L. Bussa
Bussa Orchards