

## Anderson, Bryan

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**From:** Shawn Reilly <shawn.reilly@elisrg.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 06, 2019 2:15 PM  
**To:** LABTestimony  
**Subject:** CT minimum wage proposal

I am the Director of Operations for Eli's Restaurant Group. We have six restaurants and employ over 375 people in the state. Instead of going on and on about why I am opposed to the current bills to increase the minimum wage I just want to ask one question; how am I going to pay these increases? I will use our Orange property as an example. It will be opened for three years this coming summer. In three years it has failed to turn a profit. So the money that I invested (which I got from taking a second mortgage on my home) in hopes of a return, if that is okay that I get my original investment back and God forbid a profit for the RISK that I took with that investment. Three years and I have not gotten a cent back. It still takes my time and energy but I have nothing to show in return. In the meantime all of the 40 or so staff members get paid every week. All of our purveyors get paid every week. The state gets their sales tax, unemployment insurance and money for fees and licenses. The Town of Orange gets the taxes paid and other fees and licenses. Music services; Ascap, BMI and Sesac get paid every year. The landscaper gets paid, plow guy gets paid. Insurance companies get paid, refrigeration repair company gets paid, plumber, electrician and window washers get paid. The company that clean the draft lines gets paid every week. Can you see where this is going? So now I have to pay more. Where is if going to come from? I don't have more. Raise my prices? I guess so but how does that work in a state that isn't growing? At fifteen dollars an hour that business will not survive, those 40 staff members will be looking for work and no one else is going to get paid.

*Shawn V Reilly  
Director of Operations  
Eli's Restaurant Group*