

October 1, 2014

At this point in the political season we have heard more stories, studies and stats that would drive the insane to sanity. With all of this information, as good or bad as it has been what have we learned? Will raising the minimum wage help people? Will raising the minimum wage hurt business? Will folks spend more, save more, or would there be a change at all?

Through all of this, the only thing I can think....this is the right thing to do. It is the right thing because we as Americans generally hold values to lift people up, or at least this is what we say. We show character to help people in need, or this is what we say we do. We are a world leader in humanitarian efforts, or this is at least how we feel.

Are we any of these things? We are actually debating whether or not people deserve to live a little better, cloth their children a little nicer, or the difference of keeping their job because they can afford to put gas in the car to get them there. We are debating if these folks get to tuck their children in to bed at night because now they can quit that third job they otherwise need to make sure the house is warm and not running out of fuel at forty below zero.

This debate shouldn't be about whether minimum wage earners are good enough, or smart enough, or worthy of earning a living wage. It shouldn't be about whether that small business will close up because you did the right thing. It should be about doing the right thing and lifting these people up and giving them a hand and making sure our neighbors can live with some sense of security and pride and helping them give their children an opportunity to never experience a cold night or torn clothing and worn out shoes.

I am absolutely in support of raising the minimum wage, please vote yes on 3 in November.

Thank you for allowing my testimony.

Scott C. Eickholt/ President

Laborers Local 942