



A LIVING WAGE FOR EVERY WORKER

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- ★ Register to vote by July 12 at www.kceb.org or call 816-842-4820
- ★ Help the effort: find @KCfor15 on Facebook and Twitter, and sign up to volunteer by calling 816-547-0719 or emailing KCfor15@gmail.com

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Facts About A Living Wage

ALL workers deserve a living wage that will provide for themselves and their families. In Kansas City, over 45% of workers earn less than \$15 an hour. Too many families are struggling to make ends meet. No one should have to choose between paying for rent and paying for groceries.

Raising the minimum wage INCREASES employment. There is no correlation between minimum wage increases and lower employment levels, according to the 22 federal minimum wage raises since 1938. Employment actually *increased* after 68% of minimum wage raises.

Raising the minimum wage does NOT lead to skyrocketing prices. One year after Seattle raised its minimum wage to \$15 per hour in 2015, prices in the city remained the same compared to surrounding areas, even though 62% of businesses promised they would raise prices.

A living wage will lead to a stronger economy for all of Kansas City. Someone making low wages doesn't have any extra money to spend. When workers have more money in their pockets they spend it at local businesses. This is why we don't see rises in unemployment or prices after minimum wage raises. Businesses benefit and the system balances out.

We can establish a living wage in Kansas City despite the efforts of Missouri politicians. A bill that would forbid Missouri cities from raising their minimum wages is on Governor Eric Greitens' desk, but Kansas City's new living wage would take effect *before* the ban. A legal battle may lie ahead, but it is one we can win. We will win a living wage for every worker!

Sources:
KSHB Channel 41, <http://bit.ly/2r6NEg7>
National Employment Law Project, <http://bit.ly/1NX7xfd>
Seattle Post-Intelligencer, <http://bit.ly/22KKVQn>

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