

My name is Sheily Ramirez, I am a high school senior at Paul Cuffee Upper School. I am in favor of passing this bill, because due to the companies surrounding us they brought up their prices, but we never brought up the minimum wage. Making things more expensive, and harder to maintain a family. The minimum wage was out to be able to maintain a 5 person household, but due to the inflation that companies made many things became expensive. People work 40 hours a week and still struggle to be able to pay their rent. A few years ago the rent of a 3 bedroom apartment was between \$950-\$1,000. Now the average is from \$1,400 - \$1,500 for a 3 bedroom apartment. I feel as if the bill should be passed faster than the rate that is going. Many families in RI work two jobs just to be able to provide for their families and be able to pay their rent on time. As a worker myself, working with the minimum wage won't be enough to help me pay off my future debt when I go to college. This would benefit both the economy and the people.