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Rhode Island Works Best When We Say **UNION YES.**

February 23, 2021

Dear House Member:

We write to you today in strong support of House Bill 5130. An Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations – Minimum Wage and thank Representative Bennett for sponsoring this legislation.

The bill would gradually increase the minimum wage from eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50) per hour to fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour, over a four (4) year period. Massachusetts minimum wage is presently thirteen dollars and fifty cents (\$13.50) per hour rising to fifteen (\$15.00) per hour on January 1, 2023. Connecticut’s minimum wage is presently twelve dollars (\$12.00) per hour with an increase to thirteen dollars (\$13.00) per hour on August 1, 2021 rising to fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour on June 1, 2023.

A poll taken by Fleming and Associates in March of 2020 has seventy-one percent (71%) of those polled in support of raising the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour over several years. The measure is reasonable, prudent, and predictable.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. If either of us can answer any questions, we can be reached at (401) 751.7100.

Sincerely,

George Nee  
President

Patrick Crowley  
Secretary-Treasurer

