



GENERAL TEAMSTERS LOCAL 251

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Washington, D.C.

February 24, 2021

Representative Anastasia Williams
House Labor Chairwoman
via HouseLabor@rilegislature.gov

Matthew Taibi For House Bill No. 5130

Ms. Chairwoman:

On behalf of our nearly 6000 Rhode Island members, Teamsters Local 251 strongly supports H5130, which raises the State minimum wage to \$15 over a period of time. The bill is before the House Labor Committee today, and we urge its passage.

The minimum wage was intended to be a living wage, so that workers always had a means of subsistence for themselves and their families. Unfortunately, the minimum wage has not kept up with the cost of living over quite a long period of time. Fortunately, the minimum wage has been increased in recent year to partially address this gross injustice, and we have an opportunity to put Rhode Island workers back on track towards a living minimum wage.

I urge this Committee to strongly consider H5130 to raise the minimum wage, in order to help the economy of Rhode Island and help workers earn much closer to a living wage.

Sincerely,

Matthew Taibi
Secretary Treasurer
Principal Officer

Matthew Taibi
*Secretary-Treasurer
Principal Officer*

Paul Santos
*President &
Business Agent*

Matthew Maini
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David Robbins
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Bob Sayer
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CC: House Labor Committee Representatives
Paul MacDonald

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General Teamsters in the entire state of Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts including but not limited to the towns of Assonet, Fall River, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Somerset, Swansea and Westport.