

Dear County Councilmembers,

I am writing to urge you to support Councilmembers Opel Jones and Christiana Rigby's minimum wage bill. Howard County has a very high cost of living. Raising the minimum wage will improve the lives of low-income families. We need for workers who serve our community to be able to afford to live here. Raising the minimum wage was a key recommendation of the Howard County Racial Equity Task Force. The lasting repercussions on families lives will be immense. Approximately 1 in 4 workers in Howard County will be helped by raising the minimum wage, help that this bill brings about sooner than the state, help that will bring some families out of poverty and improve their and their children's future.

Kim Birnbaum

From: [Harrod, Michelle R](#)
To: [Respass, Charity](#)
Subject: FW: Howard County needs a \$15/hour minimum wage in 2022!
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 8:54:38 PM

Testimony for Minimum Wage

Thank you,

Michelle R. Harrod

Howard County Government

Administrator to the County Council

410-313-3111 (office)

443-398-6013 (cell)

mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov

From: Katie W <kxw116@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 8:53 PM
To: CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>
Cc: info@livingwagehoco.org
Subject: Howard County needs a \$15/hour minimum wage in 2022!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to you to urge you to take immediate action to raise the minimum wage in Howard County.

Howard County is one of the wealthiest in the country, however, more than 1 in 4 households struggle to meet basic needs. Every person deserves the dignity of a paycheck that reflects the importance of their work and provides for their essential needs. Wages that fall well below the level needed to afford these basic living costs create additional barriers to employment and access to opportunities to achieve economic prosperity.

Our neighbors are struggling now, and cannot wait until the state-level mandate of \$15/hour minimum wage fully takes effect as late as 2026. Other Maryland counties have already raised their minimum wage beyond the state-mandated minimum, and Howard County should follow suit. I urge you to advance legislation requiring a \$15/hour minimum wage for all employers and government contractors beginning in 2022 to provide essential support for Howard County residents now, and help get to a living wage faster.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Katie Wilkins
10651 Gramercy Pl Unit 257
Columbia MD 21044

From: [Harrod, Michelle R](#)
To: [Respass, Charity](#)
Cc: [Sayers, Margery](#)
Subject: FW: Please pass CB82-2021 to raise the minimum wage in Howard County!
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 12:40:35 PM

Public testimony for posting

Thank you,
Michelle R. Harrod
Howard County Government
Administrator to the County Council

410-313-3111 (office)
443-398-6013 (cell)
mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: danielle Simmons <danielsimmons60@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2021 9:40 AM
To: CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>
Cc: info@livingwagehoco.org
Subject: Please pass CB82-2021 to raise the minimum wage in Howard County!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council, I am writing to urge you to VOTE YES on CB82-2021 and raise the minimum wage in Howard County. Howard County is one of the wealthiest in the country, however, more than 1 in 4 households struggle to meet basic needs. Every person deserves the dignity of a paycheck that reflects the importance of their work and provides for their essential needs. Wages that fall well below the level needed to afford these basic living costs create additional barriers to employment and access to opportunities to achieve economic prosperity. Too many of our neighbors are struggling now, and cannot wait until the state-level mandate of a \$15/hour minimum wage fully takes effect as late as 2026. Other Maryland counties have already raised their minimum wage beyond the state-mandated minimum, and Howard County should follow suit. I urge you to pass CB82-2021 without delay, to provide essential support for Howard County residents and move Howard County closer to ensuring a living wage for all workers. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone