

Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke

Henry Dorsey, Castello, Bullock, Avey, Burnett, SUGED, Middleton, Reisinger, Mitchell, Smith, Schle, 10

Prepared by: Department of Legislative Reference

Date: January 23, 2019

Referred to: RESOLUTION Committee

Also referred for recommendation and report to municipal agencies listed on reverse.

CITY COUNCIL 19-0131R

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Request for State Action – Support a \$15 Minimum Wage for Maryland

FOR the purpose of calling on the Maryland General Assembly to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation establishing a statewide \$15 minimum wage, ensuring that all working Marylanders can pay for their basic needs.

Bill A, Robert Stokes, Edward Henry, Mary Pat Clarke, [multiple other signatures]

NO. _____

****The introduction of an Ordinance or Resolution by Councilmembers at the request of any person, firm or organization is a courtesy extended by the Councilmembers and not an indication of their position.**

Agencies

_____	Baltimore City Public School System	_____	Department of Public Works
_____	Baltimore Development Corporation	_____	Department of Real Estate
_____	City Solicitor	_____	Department of Recreation and Parks
_____	Comptroller's Office	_____	Department of Transportation
_____	Department of Audits	_____	Fire Department
_____	Department of Finance	_____	Health Department
_____	Department of General Services	_____	Mayor's Office of Employment Development
_____	Department of Housing and Community Development	_____	Mayor's Office of Human Services
_____	Department of Human Resources	_____	Mayor's Office of Information Technology
_____	Department of Planning	_____	Office of the Mayor
_____	Other: _____	_____	Police Department
_____	Other: _____	_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____	_____	Other: _____
_____	Board of Estimates	_____	Environmental Control Board
_____	Board of Ethics	_____	Fire & Police Employees' Retirement System
_____	Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals	_____	Labor Commissioner
_____	Comm. for Historical and Architectural Preservation	_____	Parking Authority Board
_____	Commission on Sustainability	_____	Planning Commission
_____	Employees' Retirement System	_____	Wage Commission
_____	Other: _____	_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____	_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____	_____	Other: _____

Boards and Commissions

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 19-0131R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke, President Young, Councilmembers Henry, Dorsey, Costello, Bullock, Cohen, Stokes, Burnett, Sneed, Middleton, Reisinger, Pinkett, Scott, Schleifer

Introduced and adopted: January 28, 2019

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Request for State Action – Support a \$15 Minimum Wage for Maryland

FOR the purpose of calling on the Maryland General Assembly to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation establishing a statewide \$15 minimum wage, ensuring that all working Marylanders can pay for their basic needs.

Recitals

In Maryland, recent years have seen efforts to make up for the decades-long decline in the real purchasing power of our minimum wage. However, despite these efforts, hundreds of thousands of full-time Maryland workers still do not earn enough to cover basic needs such as housing, food, and transportation. This is an inequitable and unsustainable situation. In America, full time workers simply should not need government assistance to be able to put food on the table and a roof over their family's heads.

Raising the State minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2023 and then subsequently indexing it to keep pace with increases in the cost of living will go a long way toward remedying this untenable situation. According to an analysis by the Economic Policy Institute, this increase would benefit 573,000 Maryland workers, approximately 22% of the State's workforce. 90% of all affected workers would be adults 20 years old or older, and nearly a third are parents collectively raising 273,000 Maryland children.

The consensus drawn from decades of serious research on the issue is that statewide minimum wage increases are an effective way to address inequality and poverty without increasing unemployment or harming the broader economy. As states and local jurisdictions raise their minimum wages today, this reality is being demonstrated once again by growing economies and shrinking unemployment in areas where the minimum wage has already been increased.

Maryland lawmakers should be applauded for their recent efforts to make up for years of neglecting a minimum wage that had shrunk in purchasing power over time, but their efforts haven't yet gone far enough to ensure that workers can support themselves and their families. A further increase in the state minimum wage to \$15 an hour is needed to meaningfully shrink the ranks of the working poor and let all Marylanders share in our state's increasing prosperity. Furthermore, any legislation crafted by the General Assembly should not contain any exclusions

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

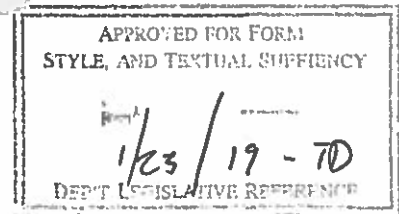
Council Bill 19-0131R

1 for agricultural works or youth workers as these exclusions often disproportionately and
2 adversely affect communities that have struggled the most economically. All workers, regardless
3 of their age or status, need to be treated with dignity and respect on the job through fair
4 compensation.

5 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
6 Council calls on the Maryland General Assembly to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation
7 establishing a statewide \$15 minimum wage, ensuring that all working Marylanders can pay for
8 their basic needs.

9 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the
10 Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the
11 Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Maryland House
12 Speaker, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

INTRODUCTORY*
CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL ____R
(Resolution)



Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Request for State Action – Support a \$15 Minimum Wage for Maryland

FOR the purpose of calling on the Maryland General Assembly to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation establishing a statewide \$15 minimum wage, ensuring that all working Marylanders can pay for their basic needs.

Recitals

In Maryland, recent years have seen efforts to make up for the decades-long decline in the real purchasing power of our minimum wage. However, despite these efforts, hundreds of thousands of full-time Maryland workers still do not earn enough to cover basic needs such as housing, food, and transportation. This is an inequitable and unsustainable situation. In America, a full time worker simply should not need government assistance to be able to put food on the table and a roof over their family's heads.

Raising the State minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2023 and then subsequently indexing it to keep pace with increases in the cost of living will go a long way toward remedying this untenable situation. According to an analysis by the Economic Policy Institute, this increase would benefit 573,000 Maryland workers, approximately 22% of the State's workforce. 90% of all affected workers would be adults 20 years old or older, and nearly a third are parents collectively raising 273,000 Maryland children.

The consensus drawn from decades of serious research on the issue is that statewide minimum wage increases are an effective way to address inequality and poverty without increasing unemployment or harming the broader economy. As states and local jurisdictions raise their minimum wages today, this reality is being demonstrated once again by growing economies and shrinking unemployment in areas where the minimum wage has already been increased.

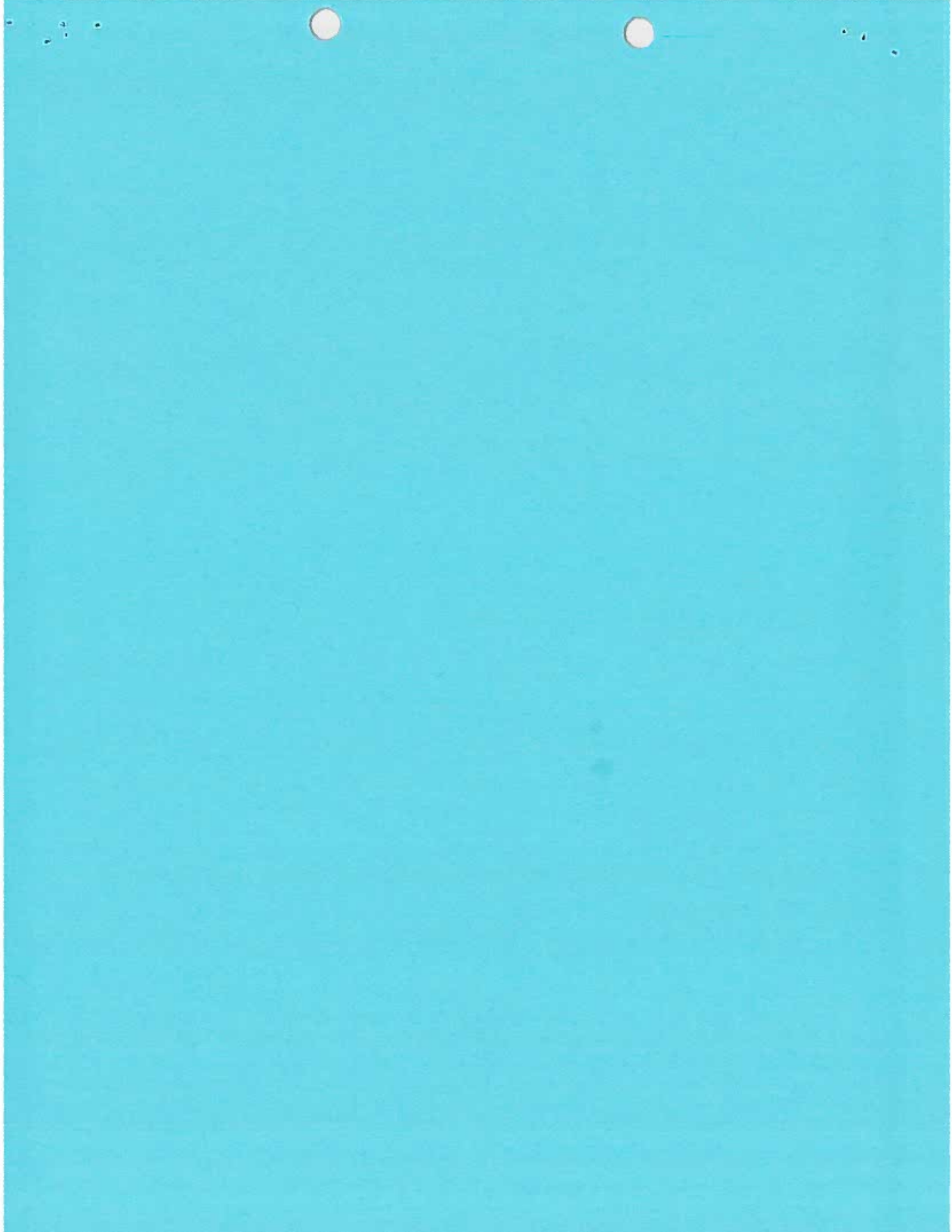
Maryland lawmakers should be applauded for their recent efforts to make up for years of neglecting a minimum wage that had shrunk in purchasing power over time, but their efforts haven't yet gone far enough to ensure that workers can support themselves and their families. A further increase in the state minimum wage to \$15 an hour is needed to meaningfully shrink the ranks of the working poor and let all Marylanders share in our state's increasing prosperity. Furthermore, any legislation crafted by the General Assembly should not contain any exclusions for agricultural workers or youth workers as these exclusions often disproportionately and adversely affect communities that have struggled the most economically. All workers, regardless

* WARNING: THIS IS AN UNOFFICIAL, INTRODUCTORY COPY OF THE BILL.
THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.

of their age or status, need to be treated with dignity and respect on the job through fair compensation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council calls on the Maryland General Assembly to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation establishing a statewide \$15 minimum wage, ensuring that all working Marylanders can pay for their basic needs.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Maryland House Speaker, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.



ACTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL

JAN 28 2019
20

FIRST READING (INTRODUCTION) _____ 20 _____

PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON _____ 20 _____

COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF _____ 20 _____

_____ FAVORABLE _____ UNFAVORABLE _____ FAVORABLE AS AMENDED _____ WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

SECOND READING: The Council's action being favorable (unfavorable), this City Council bill was (was not) ordered printed for Third Reading on:

_____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING _____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (ENROLLED) _____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (RE-ENROLLED) _____ 20 _____

WITHDRAWAL _____ 20 _____

There being no objections to the request for withdrawal, it was so ordered that this City Council Ordinance be withdrawn from the files of the City Council.

President

Chief Clerk