



# City of Baltimore

City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY\*

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL        R  
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke

### A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning  
**Request for State Action - Increase the Maryland Minimum Wage**

FOR the purpose of showing support for raising and indexing the state of Maryland's minimum wage and the subminimum wage for tipped workers to restore it to its historic value, and calling upon the Maryland General Assembly to draft or pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation to do so.

WHEREAS, the state of Maryland's minimum wage is only \$7.25 per hour, or \$15,000 a year for a fulltime, year round worker.

WHEREAS, the state of Maryland's minimum wage currently leaves fulltime earners and their families below the federal poverty line.

WHEREAS, the state of Maryland's minimum wage would be over \$10.60 per hour had it kept up with the rising cost of living over the last forty years.

WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of workers subject to the subminimum wage for tipped workers are women.

WHEREAS, nineteen states have raised their minimum wages above the state of Maryland's rate, including Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, ten states index the minimum wage each year to keep pace with the rising cost of living a key protection to prevent the minimum wage from eroding again.

WHEREAS, raising the state of Maryland's minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour, increasing the subminimum wage for tipped workers from 50 percent to 70 percent of the full minimum wage, and indexing both wage rates to rise automatically with the cost of living each year would raise pay for more than 472,000 workers in Maryland and generate more than \$466 million in new economic growth, resulting in more than 4,060 new fulltime jobs as higher

sales lead businesses to hire more employees.

WHEREAS, wages and salaries now make up the lowest share of national income since 1966, while corporate profits are now the largest share of national income since 1950.

WHEREAS, the minimum wage is becoming more important than ever to Maryland's economy as more workers rely on low-wage jobs to make ends meet, and as job growth since the recession has been disproportionately concentrated in low-wage occupations.

WHEREAS, the most rigorous academic research shows that raising the minimum wage boosts incomes of low-paid workers without reducing employment, even during periods of high unemployment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, that the Council supports raising and indexing the state of Maryland's minimum wage and the subminimum wage for tipped workers to restore it to its historic value, and calls upon the Maryland General Assembly to draft or pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation to do so.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Governor, the Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City Senate and House Delegations to the 2014 Maryland General Assembly, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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