

National Organization for Women

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Dear Representative,

The National Organization for Women, with members and supporters all across this nation and in your Congressional District, urges you to vote in support of H.R. 2 when it comes to the House floor for a vote this Wednesday. The bill will increase the federal minimum wage from its current level of \$5.15 an hour to \$7.25 an hour, a raise that is long overdue for our country's hard working families.

Families with a full-time year-round worker, earning minimum wage, can expect an annual income of \$10,712, almost \$6,000 below the federal poverty line for a family of three. We can not continue to permit almost three million full-time, year-round workers and their children to live in poverty.

While we support H.R. 2, we note that this bill does not include an automatic cost-of-living increase. Even with an increased minimum wage, workers will continue to lose purchasing power unless the minimum wage is indexed. Raising the minimum wage and indexing it to inflation is especially important for the women who comprise the majority of the 13 million workers who will benefit from an increase in the federal minimum wage.

With more than 200 co-sponsors, H.R. 2 should pass unanimously and without any amendments. The House voted to raise the minimum wage just last year and we anticipate that the 110th Congress will pass H.R. 2 - with your support. We also ask that you sponsor and vote for a measure that will index the wage to inflation and provide automatic cost of living adjustments.

NOW looks forward to working with you on this and many other economic justice and equality issues in the months ahead.

Thank you for helping workers, especially hard working women and single parents, get a raise.

For equality,

National NOW President