

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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House Committee Votes in Favor of Increase to Minimum Wage

CONCORD, NH – Today the House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services Committee voted in favor of HB 1403, a measure to increase New Hampshire’s minimum wage. HB 1403 would raise New Hampshire’s minimum wage in two stages and provide for annual cost of living increases in the future.

NHFPI Executive Director Jeff McLynch released the following statement:

“Today, far too many in New Hampshire go to their jobs, put in a full day’s work, and return home to a life of need, because it is all but impossible to make ends meet on the current minimum wage. With its vote today, the Labor Committee took the first critical step toward ensuring that 76,000 hard-working Granite Staters will be able to put food on their tables, clothes on their back, and heat in their homes.”

HB 1403 would increase the minimum wage to \$8.25 per hour on January 1, 2015 and to \$9.00 per hour on January 1, 2016. Beginning January 1, 2017, it would automatically increase New Hampshire’s minimum wage to account for inflation (based on the Consumer Price Index).

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The New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute (NHFPI) is an independent, non-partisan organization dedicated to exploring, developing, and promoting public policies that foster economic opportunity and prosperity for all New Hampshire residents, with an emphasis on low- and moderate-income families and individuals. Learn more at www.nhfpi.org.