

RELEASE: HOUSE REPUBLICANS VOTE TO KILL BILL TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM WAGE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSE REPUBLICANS VOTE TO KILL BILL TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM WAGE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE –Today, House Republicans voted to uphold Governor Sununu’s veto of House Bill 731, legislation that would have gradually established a minimum wage of \$10 per hour in 2021 and then \$12 per hour in 2023. After the vote **Representative Brian Sullivan (D-Grantham), chair of the House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services Committee**, released the following statement:

“Before COVID-19 dramatically impacted the financial stability of people across New Hampshire and the country, people were already having a hard time making ends meet. House Bill 731 was a compromise bill that addressed the governor’s concerns from last session by gradually increasing the minimum wage to \$12 per hour in 2023. Governor Sununu vetoed it along with paid family and medical leave. He also vetoed increased protections for workers returning to work during a pandemic, showing just how touch he is with workers across the state.”

“As a young professional, I know firsthand how many people are barely making it paycheck to paycheck” added **Representative Manny Espitia (D-Nashua)**. “In 2019, 4 in 10 families reported that they didn’t have \$400 available to cover an unexpected expense. Simply put, many people don’t make a living wage that allows them to obtain some sort of financial security. This is in large part due to our state relying on the incredibly low federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour. In my first term I learned quickly that in order to get things done you need to put in the work and be ready to compromise, it’s disheartening to see House Republicans continue to obstruct instead of working towards solutions.”

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On Background:

- 4 in 10 families reported they would not have savings to cover a hypothetical \$400 unexpected expense ([Report on the Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2018 - May 2019](#))

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