



Issue: Minimum Wage

Background

Currently, VA minimum wage is NOT a living wage and has not kept up with inflation. One in 10 Virginia constituents lives in poverty. Virginia taxpayers bankroll business profits by paying for Medicaid and welfare for minimum wage workers.

At Walmart, over 1 million employees are paid minimum wage and have no health benefits. Therefore, they depend on Medicaid for their health needs, food stamps for sustenance and other welfare benefits. Your taxes pay for Medicaid and welfare benefits. As a result, you are adding to Walmart's profits.

Republican Position

From 2009 to present day, Virginia Republicans have consistently voted against increasing the \$7.25 minimum wage 11 times. Even neighboring states such as West Virginia have a higher minimum wage than Virginia.

Democratic Position

Virginia Democrats have consistently voted to increase the minimum wage. Do you want to stimulate the economy and lower your taxes? Raise the minimum wage. Wage hikes increase spending power! Paying a living wage is the right thing to do.