



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

District Three

NEWS ADVISORY

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City of San Diego Minimum Wage Increase Will be on June Ballot
City Council Approves Putting Increase to \$11.50 by 2017 before Voters

SAN DIEGO (February 8, 2016) – The San Diego City Council voted unanimously to place a citywide minimum wage increase on the June 2016 ballot. Councilmember Todd Gloria initiated the legislation in 2014 after conducting considerable stakeholder outreach and it was approved by the City Council later that year. A referendum forced the issue onto the next municipal election which will be held on June 7, 2016.

“Today’s action brings a quarter of a million of San Diego’s working families closer to a much needed raise. This increase would be meaningful step towards providing relief for the 38% of San Diegans that are working but still do not earn enough make ends meet,” said Councilmember Gloria.

The increase to \$11.50 minimum wage will be phased in through 2017 with indexing to inflation starting on January 1, 2019. The original proposal phased the wage increase to \$9.75 on January 1, 2015 and \$10.50 on January 1, 2016 before reaching \$11.50 on January 1, 2017. If approved in June, the \$10.50 amount would be effective immediately upon certification of the election results. The proposal includes no exemptions for any industry or business.

“I am confident that San Diegans will support this measure because they understand that this City is very expensive and we need a local solution,” said Councilmember Gloria. **“Our City is better off when our lowest wage workers can afford to support themselves and the additional wages they will earn will go back into our local economy.”**

Additionally, workers in the City of San Diego would be eligible to earn up to forty hours of sick leave. Based on a study conducted by the Center for Policy Initiatives, approximately 85% of those earning a raise will be between age 20 and 55 and only 5% of those getting a raise would be teenagers.

Gloria was charged with authoring the argument in support of the measure that will be placed on the ballot along with the question of whether to support the increase.

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