

News from Council President Todd Gloria

City of San Diego

NEWS RELEASE

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City Council to Consider Veto Override on Minimum Wage Measure *Council President Stands Firm for Local Workers*

SAN DIEGO (August 8, 2014) – The San Diego City Council will consider overriding the Mayor's veto of an ordinance increasing the minimum wage in the city to \$11.50 per hour and providing workers the opportunity to earn sick leave. The vote will be scheduled within the next 30 calendar days, as required by city law.

The ordinance, proposed by Council President Todd Gloria, was approved on July 28, 2014 by a vote of six to three. Six votes are necessary to override the Mayor's veto.

"When 38% of San Diego workers don't earn enough to make ends meet, something must be done. That is why the mayor's veto of this reasonable, common sense measure is disappointing," said Council President Gloria. "Thankfully the City Council understands that our working families are struggling and I believe will act to override this veto."

If the Mayor's veto is overridden, San Diego's new \$11.50 minimum wage will be phased in through 2017 with indexing to inflation starting on January 1, 2019. On January 1, 2015, the wage will increase to \$9.75. It will move to \$10.50 on January 1, 2016, and reach \$11.50 on January 1, 2017. The proposal includes no exemptions for any industry or business.

The Center on Policy Initiatives estimated that 279,000 workers will now earn sick leave. The Center on Wage and Employment Dynamics at UC Berkeley also analyzed the proposal and determined it will result in raises for at least 172,000 San Diegans. Further, the number of San Diegans receiving raises could be as high as 214,000 in 2017.

Council President Gloria is now developing an enforcement ordinance to ensure compliance with the adopted workforce strengthening measure. An initial hearing on an enforcement measure is expected to be held at the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee in September.

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