

Resolution on Living Wage and the 'Fight for 15'

WHEREAS, the federal minimum wage and the Texas minimum wage remain at \$7.25 an hour – far beneath what is needed to allow full-time workers to afford basic necessities;

WHEREAS, the pathetically low minimum wage has not risen since 2009 and Congress has taken no action to improve the wage floor;

WHEREAS, the Texas Legislature made no progress in raising the state minimum wage, which mirrors the federal level;

WHEREAS, polls consistently show a large majority of Americans and Texans support a minimum wage hike, and a recent poll suggested widespread support for raising the wage to at least \$12.50 an hour;

WHEREAS, while local governments around the nation have been taking the matter into their own hands, that is not possible in Texas because state law preempts local governments from enacting general minimum wage increases, taking away "local control";

WHEREAS, fast food strikers and the "Fight for 15," as well as Wal-Mart workers, have repeatedly engaged in actions, including one-day strikes, aimed at raising wages to at least \$15 an hour in the fast-food, retail and other industries;

WHEREAS, tipped workers are often in an even worse position, receiving just \$2.13 an hour from employers while they depend on the generosity of customers to reach the minimum wage level;

WHEREAS, wage inequality is at levels not seen since the Great Depression;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Democratic delegates reaffirm our support for a federal minimum wage increase to a living-wage level, including a cost-of-living adjustment that would maintain the wage floor's buying power.

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