

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING  
20 INDEXING THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

- 30 WHEREAS: The minimum wage was established to ensure equal pay for all  
40 workers; and,
- 50 WHEREAS: Over the past two decades this wage has remained stagnant and is  
60 continually losing its purchasing power; and,
- 70 WHEREAS: The population that relies on these jobs for survival is suffering. A  
80 family of three requires an hourly income of \$6.80 to be  
90 considered at the federal poverty line (\$14,150 annually).  
100 Minimum wage is currently set at \$5.15 an hour; and,
- 110 WHEREAS: Of the 8.4 million workers (age 18-64) whose wages would be  
120 affected by a change in system of the minimum wage, 2.7 million  
130 (32%) are the parents of 4.7 million children. Of the 2.7 million  
140 parents who earned at or near the current minimum wage in 1999,  
150 63% had family incomes below \$25,000; and,
- 160 WHEREAS: Indexing the minimum wage would guarantee that workers are  
170 compensated appropriately, regardless of the status of the  
180 economy.
- 190 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges  
200 the United States Congress to consider indexing the minimum  
210 wage at the federal level to compensate those service-oriented  
220 minimum wage- applicable jobs; and,
- 230 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges  
240 Congress to implement a system in which every year the inflation  
250 rate changes, the minimum wage should adjust accordingly to  
260 match the variation in inflation; and,
- 270 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature calls  
280 for the minimum wage to be increased one third the amount of  
290 inflation each year (e.g. for every 3% in inflation, 1% in variation  
300 in minimum wage takes place).
- 310 MANDATES: President George W. Bush  
320 Vice President Dick Cheney  
330 Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans  
340 Secretary of the Treasury Paul H. O'Neill  
350 Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao  
360 Federal Reserve Chair Allen Greenspan  
370 Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert  
380 Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle  
390 House Majority Leader Dick Armey

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