

Minimum Wage: Should It Be Raised?

In this activity, you will read several articles to gain insight into the pros and cons of raising the minimum wage.

After reading the articles, you will write a letter to the editors of a local newspaper no longer than 2 pages in length that states your position on raising the minimum wage. Be sure to include at least two arguments for and two against your opinion, and support your opinion with findings from the articles.

In your essay you will take on 1 of the following four roles: (your teacher will assign your role)

- **An Employer**
- **A Job Seeker**
- **A person employed above the national minimum wage**
- **A person employed at the national minimum wage**

Read the following articles before starting your assignment:

http://www.epinet.org/content.cfm/issueguides_minwage_minwage

The page above is from the liberal Economics Policy Institute

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/wages/minimumwage.htm>

The page above is from the U.S. Department of Labor about the minimum wage

www.mackinac.org/article.asp?ID=674

The article above is from the conservative Mackinac Institute

www.balancedpolitics.org/minimum_wage.htm

The article above contains pros and cons of the minimum wage from an economic perspective

Use the business letter format found on the back of this page when writing your letter. Print and sign your letter and hand it in to your teacher.

Your letter should be single spaced. (set Styles to 'No Spacing')

Find online the actual "letters to the editor" mailing address and use that as the mailing address in your letter.

Your Name
Your Street Address
Your City, Your State 12345

May 25, 2011

The Devil's Advocate
Coginchaug Regional High School
135 Pickett Lane
Durham, CT 06422

Dear Editors

I am a mother of 6 kids currently looking for a job. I am totally against raising the current national minimum wage. Here's why...

Type the body of your letter here. Don't forget to have 2 arguments for your opinion and 2 against your opinion. Be sure to have a response to your opposing opinion.

Also, be sure to state your role, as I did in the first sentence of this sample.

Sincerely, (or some other appropriate closing)

Wanda Jobs

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