

**Testimony in support of H5029: Minimum Wages**

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

Date of Hearing: March 5, 2025

To Chair Corvese and the honorable Members of the House Labor Committee:

I support H5029 because it is necessary to raise the minimum wage for those of our hard working fellow Rhode Islanders who earn the lowest incomes and who struggle to care for their families, even after often working more than one job. This is necessary not only to compensate for rising cost of living, but also because this is one of the income groups that is impacted the most by the current aggressive federal spending cuts. Living wages are a basic human right, and we don't want to let more Rhode Islanders drift into poverty.

The bill raises the minimum wage gradually, with yearly increases leading to \$ 20 in the year 2030, which allows employers to adjust to the change and pay fair wages.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2025.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Representative Bennett for introducing this important bill.



Dr. Hans Scholl

Mar 3, 2025

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