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Representing: New Hampshire AFL-CIO
Committee: House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services
Bill Number: House Bill 1484

Testimony of Alan Raff, of the New Hampshire AFL-CIO, in Support of
HB 1484, establishing a state minimum wage and providing for incremental increases

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Alan Raff, and I am here to speak in support of House Bill 1484 on behalf of the New Hampshire AFL-CIO.

Even though this bill may not affect our membership, we believe that when we all do better, we all do better. The New Hampshire AFL-CIO advocates for the well-being of all workers, not just its own members. Establishing a minimum wage helps protect non-union workers who lack bargaining power, reducing exploitation and wage theft while promoting basic fairness across the labor market.

My brothers and sisters in organized labor support policies that affirm the dignity of work. A statutory minimum wage sends a clear signal that full-time work should meet basic standards of economic security, complementing—not replacing—the role of collective bargaining.

Lastly, establishing a state minimum wage also strengthens New Hampshire's workforce competitiveness. Workers today have choices, and wages play a significant role in where people choose to live and work. A state minimum wage helps ensure that New Hampshire remains an attractive place for workers, especially young people and families deciding whether to stay in the state.

We stand in Solidarity with all workers trying to make ends meet to provide for their families and keep the lights on in their homes. For these reasons, we ask the committee to vote Ought to Pass on HB 1484.

Thank you for your time and consideration.