

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED _____, 20 _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

BY _____, District
NO. _____

See next page for additional co-sponsors.

Referred to Committee on

Date _____ 20 ____

Reported _____ 20 ____

As Committed-Amended

Recommendation

By Hon. _____

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 101st anniversary of the minimum wage law.

2 WHEREAS, On June 4, 1912, Massachusetts passed the country's
3 first minimum wage law, at first applying only to women and
4 children, and soon after industry-specific wage boards were
5 created to determine respective minimum wages; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1914, a Massachusetts wage board organized for
7 the state's brush industry established a minimum wage of 16¢ per
8 hour; and

9 WHEREAS, Between 1912 and 1923, 15 other states, including
10 the District of Columbia, followed Massachusetts' lead in
11 establishing minimum wage laws; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1923, the United States Supreme Court in *Adkins*
13 *v. Children's Hospital* struck down the District of Columbia's
14 minimum wage law on the basis that it violated the right of
15 contract under the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, In 1933, during the height of the Great Depression,

1 United States Labor Secretary Frances Perkins advocated for a
2 national minimum wage, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt made
3 the minimum wage a key platform of his 1936 re-election bid,
4 promising to constitutionally protect American workers; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1938, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act passed
6 with a 25¢ per hour wage floor; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1941, the United States Supreme Court in *United*
8 *States v. F.W. Darby Lumber Co.* upheld the Federal Fair Labor
9 Standards Act on a 9-0 decision; and

10 WHEREAS, Justice Harlan Stone stated that the
11 constitutionality of minimum wages "is no longer open to
12 discussion"; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the
14 101st anniversary of the first-in-the-nation minimum wage law.