

**Subject:** Oppose Min Wage Increase written testimony

Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to be heard.

My name is Albert Lillie, 59 years old and own Fat Albert's Deli Mart, LLC in Myrtle Point Oregon. Myrtle Point has a population of 2700 people with one chain store who I must compete with in pricing. I own one store that is opened 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and employ less than 15 people including call ins.

I am sure that all of you know the percentages about wages and what it will do to my business if you decide to raise wages. What I'm not sure of is why the gov't is even involved in considering raising wages.

I was in the lumber industry as a business owner, a small veneer plant for 16 years. I watched the big corporations swallow up the small business's by raising log prices and importing logs from other countries that doesn't have as much gov't regulations. I could not compete and either could other small business's. Now the large corporations control the market. Small timber owners like myself has to sell logs to big timber corporations at their mercy.

So I bought a Deli Mart. Now I feel that big corporations again has decided to control the industry by having the gov't raise wages to put small business's out. Big corporations only have to raise their products by a few cents to cover the increase. I only have 3200 items in my store so I will have to increase products to where I cannot compete.

If big corporations wants to increase wages, fine, it's a free country, that won't hurt my business but if the gov't says I have to, that will hurt.

Thank You

Albert Lillie