



HR0705

LRB101 19691 ECR 69184 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In the United States, 38.1 million people live in poverty, with nearly 45 percent of that population living in deep poverty; and

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WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture estimates that 11.1% of households were food insecure in 2018; and

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WHEREAS, Poverty is associated with higher mortality rates and a higher prevalence of acute or chronic diseases; those who live in poverty are often unable to provide safe and suitable living conditions for themselves or their families; and

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WHEREAS, The purchasing power of the federal minimum wage peaked in 1968 at \$1.60 an hour, which is equivalent to \$12 an hour in 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Annual inflation diminishes the true value of a minimum wage worker's paycheck; this leaves them with less purchasing power, mobility, and fewer opportunities; and

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WHEREAS, The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour and has remained the same for over a decade; and

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1 WHEREAS, To keep pace with labor productivity, the federal
2 minimum wage should have been raised to \$19.33 an hour in 2017;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Research has found that increasing the minimum
5 wage reduces deaths from alcohol, drugs, and suicide; raising
6 the minimum wage can also reduce crime while increasing
7 economic productivity; and

8 WHEREAS, Over half of these United States have a higher
9 minimum wage than the federal minimum wage; in 2016, 52 percent
10 of voters supported raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Recently, the State of Illinois passed
13 legislation to increase the state minimum wage to \$15 an hour
14 by 2025; Illinois decided that the people deserve better, and
15 now, it is time for the Federal government to do the same; and

16 WHEREAS, The Federal Government must provide a wage floor
17 from which all Americans can make a living; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we urge the Federal government to raise millions out of poverty
21 by increasing the federal minimum wage; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 delivered to the Illinois Congressional Delegation.