



July 19, 2021

Honorable Chairman Sharon Bronson,

An agenda item entitled, '*Pima County minimum wage*' was addressed at the Pima County Small Business Commission's (SBC) July 15, 2021 meeting. After extensive discussion, the Commission voted 7 to 1 to recommend that the Board of Supervisors not adopt a County-wide minimum wage ordinance that would exceed the current Arizona minimum wage statute.

Arguments in support of not increasing Pima County's minimum wage beyond current state statute focused on many issues, including but not limited to: making Pima County less competitive to do business nationally and state-wide; wage compression; potentially decreasing staff hours worked resulting in reduced employee earnings; possible reduction of employee benefits; increased costs to consumers; diminished incentives for employee participation in skills development and training opportunities; and, geographical differences in cost-of-living variables that negate a 'one size fits all' approach to minimum wages.

Thank you for consideration of the Pima County Small Business Commission's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to not adopt a County-wide minimum wage ordinance that would exceed the current Arizona minimum wage statute.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Pima County Small Business Commission,

Kent J. Blumenthal, Ph.D.
Chairman, Pima County Small Business Commission

Copy: Pima County Board of Supervisors
Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator
Commissioners, Pima County Small Business Commission
Patrick Cavanaugh, Deputy Director, Pima County Economic Development

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