



KOOTENAI COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 50 AND HOUSE BILL 55
ADDRESSING IDAHO'S MINIMUM WAGE

Whereas the minimum wage in Idaho is \$7.25 per hour and \$3.35 per hour for tipped workers and pay income taxes; and

Whereas Kootenai County business owners compete directly with the State of Washington where workers earn a minimum wage of \$12.00 per hour (including tipped employees) and do not pay income taxes;

Whereas House Bill 55 bill proposes to incrementally increase the minimum wage in Idaho \$8.25 an hour effective July 1, 2019; to \$10.50 an hour effective July 1, 2020; to \$12.00 an hour effective July 1, 2021, and wages for tipped workers will increase to \$4.35 per hour commencing July 1, 2019, \$5.85 per hour on July 1, 2020 and \$7.35 per hour commencing July 1, 2021; and

Whereas increasing wages will add \$840,000 to Idaho's general fund; and

Whereas until 2016 Idaho cities and counties have had the authority to establish a local minimum wage to attract and retain quality workers;

Whereas the Idaho State Legislature amended Idaho Code Section 44-1502(4) to revoke this authority from local communities and House Bill 50 would allow cities and counties to establish a competitive minimum wage; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Kootenai County Democratic Central Committee:

1. Supports the passage of House Bill 50 and House Bill 55 in order to attract qualified workers to Kootenai County and allow Kootenai County to establish a minimum wage that is competitive with the State of Washington.