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## **Gov. Wolf, Lt. Gov. Fetterman Urge Raising Pennsylvania Minimum Wage**

**Harrisburg, PA** - Governor Tom Wolf and Lt. Governor John Fetterman issued the following statements as hundreds of workers head to the state Capitol to rally for a living wage.

### **Governor Wolf's statement:**

"Hundreds of workers are in the state Capitol today calling on the legislature to finally raise Pennsylvania's outdated minimum wage and I applaud Lt. Gov. John Fetterman for joining them.

"While other states are raising their minimum wage to \$15 per hour, Pennsylvania has the lowest wage allowed by federal law and it's hurting workers. Pennsylvania is lagging behind 29 other states, including all our neighbors, in ensuring fair wages.

"When jobs don't pay enough, workers can't afford the basics, like food or housing. That hurts families, businesses and communities. Raising the wage floor rewards hard work, boosts local economies and saves tax dollars as people work their way off government programs.

"Pennsylvanians are renowned for our work ethic and polls show the public overwhelmingly supports increasing the minimum wage. A \$15 minimum wage will boost incomes for 2 million workers, 61 percent of whom are women, which takes a step toward closing the gender pay gap. A staggering 89 percent of workers who would benefit are adults over age 20, and 37 percent are age 40 or older.

"All hardworking men and women – no matter the age - have waited too long with low wages. It's time for working Pennsylvanians to stop falling behind. The legislature must stand with workers and raise Pennsylvania's minimum wage."

### **Lt. Governor Fetterman's statement:**

“People deserve the dignity of being able to support themselves when they’re working full-time jobs. Workers being paid low wages are doing what their parents and grandparents did, but they are not getting anywhere; they still need to ask for help for routine expenses.

“A single mom or dad who works 40 minimum-wage hours a week can’t afford childcare and needs to use safety nets to get by. We wonder why people are frustrated. This is one reason, and people have told us that time and again.

“Poverty wages jeopardize food, housing, and transportation and contribute to intergenerational poverty. People are forced to use government-provided safety nets because they aren’t being paid enough. We need to do better, and we know we can afford to do better. Tell your legislator to raise the wage as 29 states, including all of our neighbors, have already done.”

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