



SIoux FALLS AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Progress is everyone's business

Position Statement:
Initiated Measure 18 “*Minimum Wage*”

Initiated Measure 18 – Minimum Wage Increase

In the November 2014 General Election, voters will be asked to consider a proposal to increase the minimum wage and to automatically increase the wage in future years based on CPI.

The proposal would:

- Result in an immediate increase from \$7.25 to \$8.50 per hour effective Jan. 1, 2015
- Result in an immediate increase from \$2.13 to 50% of the minimum wage (\$4.25 to start) effective Jan. 1, 2015 for tipped employees
- Require automatic increases in the minimum wage annually based on the CPI, but does not allow for decreases if the CPI decreases

Recommended Position: The Chamber should adopt a position to oppose Initiated Measure 18.

Rationale: We encourage employers to pay fair and competitive wages and believe they are in the best position to determine wage rates based on market conditions. Tying the minimum wage to automatic annual increases based on the CPI is not public policy we support as it does not allow for decision-making based on business conditions.