

# Inter-County Association of Western New York

*Representing the Counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates.*

## RESOLUTION NO. 2023-10-IC OPPOSING MINIMUM WAGE INDEX TO INFLATION

**Sponsored By:** Cattaraugus County  
**Moved By:** Rick Helmich (Cattaraugus)  
**Seconded By:** Gary Barnes (Allegany)

**WHEREAS**, Governor Hochul's Executive Budget proposes to automatically increase, and cap, the minimum wage in New York State to be consistent with the year-over-year Consumer Price Index-W for the Northeast Region, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed plan to tie the minimum wage to inflation is inadequate for struggling low-income workers and equates to an estimated extra \$13 per week, and

**WHEREAS**, inflation is increasing the cost of everything from home heating to groceries, making it very difficult for families to make ends meet, and

**WHEREAS**, historically increasing the minimum wage has been economically ineffective at raising the standard of living for low income workers, and

**WHEREAS**, the State's recent actions on fossil fuel bans and other energy moratoriums will only drive up energy costs mitigating any gains from a minimum wage increase, and

**WHEREAS**, a better use of state policy would be to provide realistic skills to workers allowing them to raise their wages in a free market, and

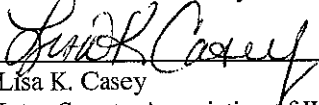
**WHEREAS**, the State incorrectly indexes the minimum wage to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is an inappropriate inflation gauge as it does not allow for the substitution effect offered by more accurate inflation measures like the Personal Consumption Expenditures Price Index (PCE), and

**WHEREAS**, the State uses CPI, which has a large weighting in the price basket to housing which follows national housing trends that have consistently overstated housing inflation relative to areas like Western New York which has consistently trailed national housing growth, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Inter-County Association of Western New York hereby opposes Governor Hochul's proposal to index the minimum wage to inflation, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of Inter-County Association of Western New York is hereby directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Rob Ort, Assembly Majority Leader Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Assembly Minority Leader William Barclay, Senator George Borrello, Assemblyman Joseph Giglio, the New York State Association of Counties, and the Inter-County Association of Western New York.

This is to Certify that I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Inter-County Association of Western New York, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office and which was duly adopted by the Association at a session held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2023 and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of the Inter-County Association of Western New York dated April 21, 2023.

  
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Lisa K. Casey  
Inter-County Association of Western New York



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