



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement from Rep. Brostoff on \$15 Minimum Wage

MADISON – Representative Jonathan Brostoff (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement today in support of a bill, being introduced by Representative Melissa Sargent (D-Madison), that would make minimum wage \$15 per hour.

“When adjusted for inflation, federal minimum wage peaked in 1968. Our current minimum wage is shameful,” said Brostoff, “Fulltime employees should never be forced to depend on public services to support their families.”

Milwaukee County’s fair market rent, as determined by HUD, for a 2 bedroom apartment is almost \$900 per month. A fulltime employee receiving minimum wage earns just over \$1,200 per month gross pay. This leaves a single-parent household less than \$300 after payroll deductions for all other costs of living.

Young females are the most likely of any demographic to be employed at minimum wage according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“With the recent ALEC-backed Republican attacks on our state’s unions and prevailing wage requirements, we need to safeguard the middle class any way we can,” Brostoff said. “We cannot allow our legislature’s Republicans to leave Wisconsin families behind.”

Currently, 29 states and the District of Columbia have higher minimum wage standards than Wisconsin’s which remains at the federal level of \$7.25 per hour.

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