



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Tuesday, May 19, 2015

ENGLANDER STATEMENT ON MINIMUM WAGE

LOS ANGELES— Councilmember Mitchell Englander released the following statement on the Los Angeles City Council vote today to increase the minimum wage:

There is no question in my mind that better pay for workers would provide myriad benefits, I am not, however, convinced that a unilateral minimum wage increase serves the intended purpose and may, worse, have unintended consequences such as job loss, reduction in working hours, or make it impossible for entire industries to do business in the City of Los Angeles.

Everyone prospers when we create an environment that fosters the creation of better paying, middle class jobs. For me, this starts with eliminating the gross receipts tax, reinstating trade tech and shop classes in our high schools, creating an educated workforce by establishing a clear pathway through the community college system and onto a four-year university and by replacing the incentives for hiring that were lost when the Enterprise Zone was discontinued at the State level.

The very last thing that we should be doing as a City, is creating a competitive disadvantage for our businesses with those in neighboring cities, and sending the clear message that Los Angeles is closed for business.

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