



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT REGARDING STATE MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

SAN DIEGO (April 4, 2016) – The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce released the following statement from president and CEO Jerry Sanders regarding the legislation that raises the statewide minimum wage to \$15 per hour which was signed by Governor Brown today:

“Just three months ago, Sacramento raised the minimum wage to \$10 per hour, the highest in the nation, and businesses have been struggling to adjust to the change. Now, businesses are facing an additional five years of increased costs and we aren’t providing real opportunities for sustained growth or prosperity.

It’s unrealistic to think that this dramatic legislation won’t cause businesses, particularly small businesses, to consider cutting their employees’ hours or letting them go. Some may even have to close their doors. That’s what we’ve seen happen in Seattle.

This bill was crafted over a weekend, rushed through the legislature, and ultimately signed into law without input from the business community, or from the Californians that stand to bear the brunt of this major policy change. Regulation such as this makes California a challenging place to do business and is actually counterproductive for many of the families that need real solutions.

The San Diego Regional Chamber applauds the many businesses, both small and large, that answered our call to advocacy. We’d also like to thank the legislators including Assembly Member Chavez, Assembly Member Jones, Assembly Member Maienschein, Assembly Member Waldron, Senator Anderson and Senator Bates for their votes asking that we reconsider this bill.”

- Jerry Sanders, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce President and CEO

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About The San Diego Regional Chamber

The San Diego Regional Chamber is the hub for connections and collaboration among the regional business community, and uses that clout to advocate for public policies and candidates that support economic growth and the creation of jobs for all businesses. As the largest local Chamber on the West Coast, representing more than 2,500 businesses and 300,000 jobs, the San Diego Regional Chamber is fighting to make San Diego the most business-friendly region in California. For more information, please visit SDChamber.org or call 619-544-1300.