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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STATEMENT REGARDING
QUALIFICATION OF MINIMUM WAGE REFERENDUM**

SAN DIEGO (October 16, 2014) – The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce today released the following statement regarding the San Diego County Registrar of voters certification that validated the citizen-led petition drive to referend San Diego's 44 percent increase in the minimum wage:

"Our successful effort to qualify the referendum proves that voters find this issue important enough to combat aggressive blocking from the opposition to make sure that City Council knows they don't agree with this bad policy. An increase in the minimum wage of this magnitude would be detrimental to San Diego jobs, the economy and small businesses and would put our city at a competitive disadvantage as compared to nearby cities not affected by such an increase.

City Council now has an opportunity to step-up and protect the jobs and businesses in our city. Should Council not listen to the San Diegans who signed the petitions, voters will surely make their voices heard at the ballot box and rescind the ordinance themselves. "

Jerry Sanders, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce President & CEO

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