

## Murphy Supports Federal Minimum Wage Increase

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Washington, DC -- Today, Congressman Chris Murphy (CT-5) cast his vote in support of working families across the country to raise the federal minimum wage for the first time in nine years.

The federal minimum wage has been frozen at \$5.15 since 1997 even though Congress has voted to raise its own pay nine times in that same period. The federal minimum wage is at its lowest level in 51 years, adjusted for inflation. American families have seen their real income drop by almost \$1300 since 2000. Meanwhile, the cost of everything from gas to college tuition has gone up.

"This bill passed with such strong bipartisan support because it is the right thing to do for working families across the country who are struggling to make ends meet," said Murphy.

While Connecticut recently raised its minimum wage to \$7.65 an hour, other states have much lower standards. This federal legislation is vital because without it, other states are not required to raise their standard.

This bill increases the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 an hour over two years.

"Being on the floor for the passage of the minimum wage bill was an experience I won't forget. The energy was electric, and I'm glad to have played a part in giving working families across this country the dignity of a livable wage," said Murphy.