



# NEWS

## AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

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## Nevada: Wrong to Raise the Minimum Wage

*-Wage Hike Will Increase Unemployment and Stifle Economic Growth*

Washington D.C. – To the supporters of a minimum wage increase in Nevada: “The increase actually hurts low-wage workers and will actually push businesses out of the state.”

Ballot Question #6 on Nevada’s November ballot will determine whether the state will increase the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$6.15 per hour. This proposed increase would present a minimum wage almost 20 percent in excess of what is required under federal law.

**“If low-wage workers in Nevada and around the country truly want the chance to increase their personal wealth and make better lives for themselves and their families, an artificial wage increase by the government is the wrong way to do it,”** said taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform. **“The small business community, which represents 75% of the net-new jobs in America are the types of businesses in Nevada that will be pushed out of the state, unable to sustain the appropriate workforce to run their business due to a government mandate.”**

Thomas McCurdy and Frank McIntyre of Stanford University ascertained in a 2000 study that “...three in four of the poorest workers lose from shouldering the costs of higher prices resulting from the wage increase. When these benefits and costs are considered, the minimum wage is ineffective as an anti-poverty policy.”

**“Long-term economic growth is the most important way in which to battle poverty and increase the wages for the American workforce,”** continued Norquist. **“It is clear to those who understand the economics of it all that an increase will reduce employment for those who receive a rate close to the minimum wage, and eventually reduces overall income. The gains of higher wages are more than offset by reduced employment and hours, inevitably presenting us with an inefficient way of helping the poor.”**

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Chris Butler at (202) 785-0266 or at [cbutler@atr.org](mailto:cbutler@atr.org).