

# California OKs highest statewide minimum wage

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California lawmakers on Thursday approved the nation's highest statewide minimum wage of \$15 an hour to take effect by 2022 after it was hailed by Democrats as an example to the nation as it struggles with a growing gap between rich and poor.

The legislation now goes to Gov. Jerry Brown, who says he will sign it into law Monday after previously working out the plan with labor unions.

Brown says the measure approved by the Legislature proves again that California can get things done and help people get ahead.

The state of New York was considering a similar move.

The income divide has become a key issue across the U.S., with President Barack Obama proposing an increase to the federal minimum wage and the issue getting attention in the Democratic presidential primary.

Democrats who control both legislative chambers in California hailed the increase as a boon to more than 2 million of state's poorest workers.

Republicans, however, echoed fears from business owners and economists that the annual increases — eventually tied to inflation — will compound California's image as hostile to business.

The Assembly passed SB3 with a 48-26 vote. The



AP Photo/Craig Ruttle, File

In this April 15, file photo, protesters pause near a McDonald's restaurant in Times Square during a rally and march in New York.

Senate followed, 26-12.

The increases would start with a boost from \$10 to \$10.50 on Jan. 1. Businesses with 25 or fewer employees would have an extra year to comply. Increases of \$1 an hour would come every January until 2022. The governor could delay increases in times of budgetary or economic downturns.

California's current \$10 an hour minimum wage is tied with Massachusetts for the highest among states. Only Washington, D.C., at \$10.50 per hour is higher.

Los Angeles, Seattle and other cities have recently approved \$15 minimum wages, while Oregon officials plan to increase the

minimum to \$14.75 an hour in cities and \$12.50 in rural areas by 2022.

In New York, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and state lawmakers continued to negotiate Thursday over Cuomo's proposal to gradually raise the state's minimum wage from \$9 to \$15 by the end of 2018 in New York City and by mid-2021 elsewhere in the state.

Brown, a Democrat, was previously reluctant to raise the base wage. He negotiated the deal with labor unions to head off competing labor-backed November ballot initiatives that would have imposed swifter increases without some of the safeguards included in the legislation. Brown now says

the most populous state's fast-growing economy can absorb the raises without the problems predicted by opponents.

About 2.2 million Californians now earn the minimum wage. The University of California, Berkeley, Center for Labor Research and Education, projected the increase would have a ripple effect for those whose wages would increase to keep pace.

The researchers project it would increase pay for 5.6 million Californians by an average of 24 percent. More than a third of the affected workers are parents. Latinos would benefit most because they hold a disproportionate number of low-wage jobs, the researchers said.

## Trump stumbling in Wisconsin as forces coalesce against him

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Next Tuesday's Wisconsin presidential primary is emerging as a crucial lifeline for Republicans desperate to stop Donald Trump's march to their party's nomination. One of his worst weeks of the 2016 campaign is colliding with a state already skeptical of his brash brand of politics.

A big loss for Trump in Wisconsin would greatly reduce his chances of securing the delegates he needs to clinch the GOP nomination before next July's national convention. It could also offer new hope to rival Ted Cruz and outside groups that see Trump as a threat to the future of the Republican Party.

"I think the whole country is looking to Wisconsin right now to make a choice in this race, and I think the choice Wisconsin makes is going to have repercussions for a long time to come," Cruz said Thursday in an interview with Milwaukee radio station WTMJ.

Trump's view is rosier for his own campaign: "If we win Wisconsin, it's pretty much over."

But almost nothing has gone right for him since Wisconsin stepped into the primary spotlight.

Even before he arrived, Trump was skewered in interviews with a trio of Wisconsin's influential conservative talk radio hosts. On Tuesday, just hours before his first campaign stop, two-term Gov. Scott Walker threw his support behind Cruz, of Texas.

Much of the trouble that followed was of the Trump campaign's own making. Corey Lewandowski, Trump's campaign manager, got slapped with a charge of simple battery for an altercation with a reporter. Then Trump was forced to walk back his assertion that women should be punished for getting abortions, a comment that managed to unite both sides of the abortion debate in fierce opposition to his statement.

"As soon as he stepped foot in Wisconsin the mask finally came off," said state Rep. Jim Steineke, the Republican majority leader in the Wisconsin Assembly. "Part of it is just

the Wisconsin nice. We don't take too kindly to people who act the way Donald Trump acts."

GOP voter Linda Ruddy, a 48-year-old dental hygienist from Oshkosh, agreed. "He's rude. He's arrogant. He's a loose cannon. He's insulting to women," Ruddy said.

A poll run by Marquette University Law School has shown Trump holding steady at around 30 percent in Wisconsin, a level of support that gave him a lead in the state last month.

But the latest survey released this week showed Cruz surging past the real estate mogul, topping him by 10 points.

"Everybody is going to want to write that he got taken down," Cruz campaign manager Jeff Roe said of Trump. "The fact is he didn't get taken down. The fact is that we're consolidating."

If Cruz sweeps all the delegates in Wisconsin, Trump will need to win 57 percent of the remaining delegates in other states to collect the 1,237 he needs to clinch the nomination.

So far, he has won 48 percent of all delegates awarded.

Wisconsin offers 42, putting it in the middle of the pack of primary prizes. But the state's stature in Republican politics and its position on the calendar — no other state votes until April 19 — have elevated its importance. Though the state has voted for Democrats in the past several presidential elections, it boasts prominent national party leaders including Walker, House Speaker Paul Ryan and Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus.

Anti-Trump groups say they have benefited from the primary calendar. Super PACs and rival campaigns have been able to focus narrowly on Wisconsin for nearly two weeks.

Planned Parenthood and Priorities USA, two groups working to elect Hillary Clinton, have teamed up for their first anti-Trump advertisement of the election year, a 30-second spot playing on websites that features Trump's abortion comment.

## The ordination of a limey pastor

A consequence of my arrival to the good people of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Locust Road is that a very big event is made around me being ordained — one that involves pastors rolling in from Washington, Hermiston, Pendleton and even Missouri all to eye me up and make sure that I do not embarrass the profession while laying their hands on me.

I had the great pleasure of seeing maybe about eight pastors squidding into our office to get into albs that were also too tight. It reminded me of the Marx Brothers and their efforts in packing a crowd into a ship's cabin.

Pastor Mruk, an ironclad pastor from Hermiston with a deep Chicago accent and a steely glint in his eye, addresses me directly from the pulpit. It is clear that the path I am walking will have to be walked in a manner of great seriousness. Lutherans are very clear that the law convicts and the Gospel saves and what we deliver has to contain these possibilities.

If there is no repentance there can be no forgiveness from a pastor; if there is repentance there is forgiveness. I say I will do these things, but ask God to help me. God help me. God help me. Am I really here? Have I really begun?

There is grace here, and a great possibility.

I had to get ready for Easter, which really was the beginning of my ministry here and when the rubber gets to meet the road. I want to start knocking at some doors and making a racket for the Lord. Some exciting things are coming our way!

Colin Brown is pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boardman.



COLIN BROWN  
Comment

### BRIEFLY

#### Jesus & Me features children's program

MILTON-FREEWATER — Singing, puppets, skits, object lessons and breakout sessions are featured in a children's program at Milton Adventist Church.

Jesus & Me — JAM — is Saturday at 10:45 a.m. in the church's youth chapel, 1244 N. Elizabeth St., Milton-Freewater. The theme is Don't Be Fooled.

For more information, call 541-938-3066 or visit www.facebook.com/miltonadventist.

#### Redeemer church to install new rector

PENDLETON — Rev. Charlotte Wells will be installed as the new rector Saturday, April 9 at 11 a.m. at Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 241 S.E. Second St., Pendleton.

The church held several candidate visitations this past summer in its search for a new cleric. Wells was the past interim rector at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Lebanon.

For more information or to make a gift donation, contact Ann Marie Hardin at annmarie45279@gmail.com or 541-310-7198.

#### Church's women's ministry coordinates luncheon

HERMISTON — A time of fellowship and encouragement to widows is available through Hermiston Church of the Nazarene.

As part of the church's women's ministry, the Merry Heart Widow's Lunch is Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant, 800 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. It's a no-host event.

For more information, contact 541-567-3677 or hermistonnaz@gmail.com.

# Worship Community

## Pendleton FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Mid-Week Children & Youth • Weekly Adult Life Groups  
1711 SW 44th St. • 541-276-6015 • www.pendfmc.org

### Peace Lutheran Church

210 NW 9th, Pendleton, ELCA  
Join us Sundays  
9:30 am Sunday Worship  
10:30 am Fellowship  
11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Class  
~Come and be at Peace~  
on 1290 KUMA noon each Sunday

### Faith Center Church

Worshiping God  
Loving People  
108 S. Main • 276-9569  
Sunday Worship  
10:30 am  
Sr. Pastor,  
Ray O'Grady  
pendletonfaithcenter.org

### NEW HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston  
Sunday Worship Services  
English- Pastor Dave Andrus  
9:00 & 10:45 am  
Spanish- Pastor Genaro Loreda  
9:00 & 10:15 am  
Classes for kids during all services  
For more information call  
541-567-8441

### Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Saturday Services  
Pendleton  
1401 SW Goodwin Place  
276-0882  
Sabbath School 9:20 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am

### Community Presbyterian Church

14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR  
922-3250  
Worship: 10 AM  
Sunday School at 11:30

### GRACE AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

OPEN HEARTS — OPEN DOOR  
www.graceandmercy.org  
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (Nursery Provided)  
Fellowship, Refreshments & Sunday School  
Check Out our Facebook Page or Website for More Information  
541-289-4535  
Tom Inch, Pastor  
Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church, ELCA  
164 E. Main St. / P.O. Box 1108  
Hermiston, Oregon 97838

### PILOT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH

585 SW Birch, Pilot Rock, OR 97788  
(541) 443-2500  
prbconline.blogspot.com  
Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
Kids' Club: 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Services:  
Youth Group: 7:00 pm

### Grace Baptist Church

555 SW 11th, Hermiston  
567-9497  
Nursery provided for all services  
Sunday School - 9:30 AM  
Worship - 10:45 AM  
6:00 pm  
Wed Prayer & Worship - 7:00 PM  
"Proclaiming God's word, growing in God's grace"

### St. Johns Episcopal Church

All People Are Welcome  
Scripture, Tradition and Reason  
Family service 9am Sunday  
Gladys Ave & 7th Hermiston  
Fr. Dan Ledard, Priest, PH: 567-6672

### FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

in Mission for Christ LCMC  
Bible Study.....9:00 AM  
Sunday Worship.....10:30 AM  
Red Lion Hotel (Oregon Trail Room)  
www.faihtpendleton.org

### First United Methodist Church

352 SE 2nd Street Pendleton, OR  
541-276-2616  
Sunday Worship 9am  
Open Hearts, Open Hands, Open Doors  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/FUMCpendleton  
Services are broadcast every Sunday on KUMA-1290 AM @ 11am  
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

Come meet Jesus at  
PENDLETON BAPTIST CHURCH  
3202 SW Nye Ave Pendleton, OR  
541-276-7590  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes 9:45 AM  
Sunday Youth Group 6:00 PM  
Mon. Community Women's Study 9:30 AM & 6 PM  
Awana Kids Club (K-6th grade)  
Wed Men's Study 6 PM  
MOPS meeting the 1st Thur of the Month 6 PM

### FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

215 N Main • Pendleton  
Sunday Worship: 10:40a  
Bible Class: 9:30a  
Office: 276-5358  
M-F, 6:30-12:30  
www.FCCPENDLETON.ORG

### Living Word Christian Center

Sunday Worship 10:00am  
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm  
Youth Classes - Nursery/6th grade Sun & Wed  
YOUTH GROUPS: Jr Hi, Wed 7pm  
Sr Hi, Sun after the service  
Sharon Miller, Pastor  
401 Northgate, Pendleton  
541-278-8082  
www.livingwordcc.com

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

-Presbyterian Church (USA)-  
201 SW Doran Ave.  
Pendleton  
Service of Worship - 10:00 am  
Children's Sunday School - 10:20 am  
Fellowship - 11:00 am  
www.pendletonpresbyterian.com  
Open Hearted...  
Open Minded

### PENDLETON FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

FIRST SERVICE 8:30 AM  
SECOND SERVICE 10:30 AM  
712 SW 27th ST.  
541-276-1894  
www.fcogpendleton.com

### The Salvation Army Center for Worship & Service

Sunday Worship Service  
9:30 - Sunday School  
10:30 - Worship Service  
Wednesday Bible Study  
5:30 Family Fellowship Meal 6:00 Bible Study  
COME AS YOU ARE  
150 SE EMIGRANT  
(541)276-3369

### Redeemer Episcopal Church

241 SE Second St. Pendleton  
(541)276-3809  
www.pendletonepiscopal.org  
Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Worship Noon  
All Are Welcome

a place to belong  
Pendleton First  
INVITING ENRICHING  
INVOLVING EMPOWERING  
SUNDAY SERVICES  
AM Celebration-10:00am  
AM Kids Place -10:00am  
The Connection--6:00pm  
Groups for all ages:  
Adults, Children, Youth, & College  
Thursdays  
Celebrate Recovery-6:00pm  
Celebration Place-6:00pm  
Other Groups Available Weekly  
For more info visit  
WWW.PENDLETONFIRST.COM  
1911 SE Court Ave  
541-276-6417  
Assembly of God Church

### BAHA'I FAITH

"The Unity of All Mankind"  
Pendleton Baha'i Center at  
1015 SE Court Place  
Devotions Sundays @  
11:00am; Everyone  
invited!  
(541) 276-9360 visit us at  
www.pendletonbahais.org

To share your  
worship times call  
Amanda Jacobs  
541-278-2683