

3202

Form Letter F 271

Stephen Hoffman

From: Sister Veronice Plewinski <veroniceplewinski@bfranciscan.org>
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 12:45 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: I Support the New Overtime Regulation.

George Bedwick,

Dear Chairman George Bedwick:

I am writing to support the Department of Labor and Industry's new regulation "Amendments to 34 Pa. Code Chapter 231 regarding Overtime Pay" [Minimum Wage #12-106 (IRRC# 3202)]. Governor Wolf's proposed change regarding the Executive, Administrative, and Professional (EAP) salaried worker exemptions is a crucial step toward preventing worker misclassification on the job and the exploitation of labor.

In Pennsylvania, there are an estimated 465,000 workers who currently fall into the EAP exemption but would not be exempt under the proposed regulation. The current federal level for workers included in the Fair Labor Standards Act is \$23,660, however, the state level can be as low as \$8,600; the new regulation raises the threshold to \$48,000.

In 1975, more than 60% of salaried workers nationwide were protected by overtime laws, but today it's only 8%. This regulation is crucial for working men and women because of the continuous increases to the costs of living and housing after 40 years since the last regulation.

When President Trump rejected the U.S. Department of Labor's new overtime protections American workers lost over \$1 billion in their yearly salary. We must act at the state and local levels to take on the responsibility when workers are abandoned at the federal level. Workers should be compensated for every hour they work, regardless of their classification.

Sincerely,

Sister Veronice Plewinski
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460 St. Bernardine Street

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