



Hillary Clinton begins a day of campaigning

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Bernie Sanders (I-VT), has called on the federal government to raise the minimum wage to \$15.

The governors of NY and California on Monday approved measures that will eventually boost minimum wage in those states to \$15 per hour. The minimum wage will then go up by a dollar in each of the following years until it reaches 15 dollars in 2022, after which it will continue to rise each year by up to 3.5 percent to account for inflation.

The minimum wage would rise only to \$12.50 in the rest of the state by 2020, with further increases tied to economic conditions. "This is an important day, it's not the end of the struggle but it's a very important step forward".

"This is about economic justice; it's about people", Brown said in Los Angeles, according to a press release. "Economically, minimum wages may not make sense", the governor said.

Under the legislation, the minimum wage will gradually increase the beginning of each year, first rising to \$10.50 per hour in January 2017 until reaching \$15 per hour in 2022. Clinton, who has been campaigning in NY in advance of the state's April 19 primary, called the \$15 wage hike a "real watershed". "Rising wages make automation more palatable, make more sense", said Blue River vice president of business development Ben Chostner.

Brown traced the idea of paying workers a "living wage" to 19th-century religious ideals. To what extent California's new minimum wage will spur automation is hard to predict because most research has addressed smaller mandated pay hikes, Muro said.

A \$15 base wage will have "devastating impacts on small businesses in California", Tom Scott, executive director of the state branch of the National Federation of Independent Business, said in a statement. "California's minimum wage will be the highest minimum wage anywhere in the world".

Democratic presidential frontrunner Hillary Clinton joined Gov. Cuomo in NY to celebrate the new minimum wage plan. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, center, signs a law that will gradually raise New York's minimum wage to \$15, at the Javits Convention Center.

Meanwhile, Republicans and business leaders opposed the statewide minimum-wage hike, arguing it will lead to businesses reducing the size of their work force or increasing prices to cover the costs of the increased wages.

Citing research from the right-leaning CATO Institute, Lawson wrote in a brief last month that a 10 percent increase in the minimum wage would lead to half a percentage point reduction in the employment growth rate. "Ultimately, this will mean higher costs and fewer jobs for everyone",

he predicted. "We don't get to do a lot of things that I think a lot of people take for granted", said home health care worker Sandra Medina.

Brown negotiated the deal with labor unions to head off competing labor-backed ballot initiatives that would have imposed swifter increases with fewer safeguards. That means employers in the Inland Empire and other areas with generally lower wages - along with a lower cost of living, especially much cheaper housing - will be forced to pay the same wage as San Francisco and Silicon Valley, where living costs are much higher.