

The Daily Courier

Letter: \$15 minimum wage could end handouts

EDITOR:

It makes sense to raise minimum wage to \$15.

The Cato Institute released a study showing that welfare benefits pay more than a minimum wage job in 33 states and the District of Columbia. Even worse, welfare pays more than \$15 per hour in 13 states.

According to the study, welfare benefits have increased faster than minimum wage. It's now more profitable to sit at home than it is to earn an honest day's pay with a job.

Hawaii is the biggest offender, where welfare recipients earn \$29.13 per hour, or a \$60,590 yearly salary, all for doing nothing.

So how about this idea? Instead of providing all the unemployment and food stamps use this money to give small owners a subsidy to increase minimum wages to \$15 dollar per hour. All employees are paid 7.50 an hour by the small business owner but they will also receive a matching amount from the government.

Cut off all unemployment and food stamps for able-bodied people and give them a choice of either taking a job or staying unemployed without a unemployment check or food stamps. Should cut the unemployment rate and help boost the economy out of the dulldrums.

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