

1/10/2007 - Congressman Albio Sires Votes to Raise the Minimum Wage

Representative Sires continues his commitment to American workers

For Immediate Release

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January 10, 2007

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(Washington, D.C.) - {Today, Congressman Albio Sires (NJ-13) voted with his colleagues in the House of Representatives to increase the national minimum wage from \$5.15 per hour to \$7.25 per hour. The long overdue Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 ends a nine year period without an increase. (En Espanol)

"I am proud to be a member of Congress at a time when I can help the nearly 13 million American workers that will benefit from an increase in the minimum wage, including the almost 2.8 million Hispanic workers and 2.4 million African-American workers whose quality of life will be greatly improved by this legislation," said Congressman Sires.

H.R.2 increases the minimum wage by \$2.10 over two years. The bill raises the minimum wage to \$5.85 sixty days after enactment; to \$6.55 one year later, and to \$7.25 one year after that. Single parents and minority women will greatly benefit from the increase, as well as millions of Americans living in poverty. This legislation is instrumental in fostering the development of a stronger and more robust middle class.

"We must reaffirm the American Dream that rewards hard work with good pay and the opportunity to support strong and healthy families," said Congressman Sires. An increase in the minimum wage will help working families meet critical needs such as food, rent, and healthcare.