



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Bob Thorpe (R-6)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representative Thorpe Mystified by Flagstaff City Council's Refusal to Honor the Will of its Citizens

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX - Representative Bob Thorpe (R-6) voiced serious concerns over the irresponsible 5-2 vote of Flagstaff's liberal City Council, who rejected the will of thousands of petition signers seeking an early special election in response to the new \$15 minimum wage. The Council denied voters the right to democratically cast their ballots until November 2018.

“The Flagstaff City Council demonstrated how detached they are from city business owners, taxpayers, and hardworking citizens who are already suffering under the labor union-inspired minimum wage increase,” said Representative Thorpe. **“Businesses are closing and workers are losing their jobs, and yet the City Council denied its citizens the right to quickly correct this mistake at the voting booth. Those negatively impacted by the dramatic minimum wage increase also include FUSD, disabled individuals, and the organizations that help them, as well as the working poor, charitable organizations, and all of the families who will be forced to pay much higher prices.”**

The November 2016 ballot proposition 414 passed only by a narrow margin, amending city ordinances to increase minimum wages from \$8.05 to \$12 an hour by July 1st, and then to \$15 by 2021, which will be one of the highest minimum wages in the nation, even higher than New York City. According to Representative Thorpe, **“Nowhere within the Arizona or the United States Constitution does government have the authority to set employee wages for private businesses.”**

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