

**BUS:2018-02 Urging the establishment of a minimum living wage that increases along with the Consumer Price Index**

Whereas, A living wage is defined as the minimum income required for full-time workers to meet their basic needs including shelter, clothes and food; and

Whereas, In the world's wealthiest country, hundreds of thousands of full-time workers continue to earn poverty-level wages, putting their children and themselves at a lifestyle risk for health and education concerns, including, but not limited to, poor nutrition, unsafe or inadequate housing, lack of access to medical aid when needed; and

Whereas, Studies show that an increase in the minimum wage corresponds with an increase in jobs and has little or no negative effect on the employment of minimum wage workers, and that an increase in the minimum wage would generate billions of dollars in new consumer spending; and

Whereas, Several other states and cities with lower costs of living have already passed legislation moving the minimum wage to \$15 per hour and then adjusting for inflation, like California, New York, Seattle and Minneapolis; and

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports "strong labor practices, good jobs and a living wage," as well as "measures to drastically reduce income and wealth inequality" and "a comprehensive approach to ending poverty"; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation increasing the state minimum wage to at least a level of self sufficiency, where full-time employment generates a living wage, and supporting annual increases to the state minimum wage equal to the percentage increase of the Consumer Price Index; and be it

*Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of Hawai'i and the members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.