

Wage Board

On July 22, 2015 a three-member wage board, empaneled by the New York State Department of Labor at the request of the governor, recommended a minimum wage of \$15 an hour for all fast food workers in New York State.

The board recommended the wage be phased in at a different schedule in different parts of the state, reaching \$15 an hour by December of 2018 in New York City, and by July of 2021 for the rest of the state.

The Business Council of New York State, Inc. has objected to this process from the beginning and recently submitted comments to the NYS Department of Labor further outlining our objections.

Highlights include:

RE: The improper impaneling of the wage board.

“We do not believe any of the three wage board members was drawn from a pool of fast food industry nominations. In addition to meeting the specific requirement of the Labor Law, having a board member with actual experience operating in this business sector would have brought valuable knowledge and an important perspective to the board’s investigation and deliberations. Without such an appointment, it seems that this wage board was improperly impaneled.”

RE: The impact on employers and jobs.

“Without a more thorough consideration of the operating costs and profits of the vast majority of fast food establishments that are franchisee owned, it is not possible for the board to reach a meaningful conclusion on the impact of its proposal on fast food establishments and job opportunities within such businesses.”

U.S. Chamber Survey

Our partners with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are soliciting your feedback. Please read below and consider helping out.

In our quest to strengthen chamber of commerce advocacy, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is seeking to establish best practices and provide useful tools related to government

affairs, public policy and political activity for the chamber industry.

By taking this 10 minute survey (<http://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/2256704/US-Chamber-Survey>) you will not only be helping the chamber industry by providing a better understanding of the industry’s engagement in public policy and political activities, but you will also receive a \$25 discount off of registration for the 2015 Government Affairs Conferences in Las Vegas (Sept. 30-Oct. 2) and Nashville (Oct. 12-14). Additionally, you will receive a complimentary copy of the survey’s final results.

Data gathered from this survey is confidential and will only be reported on in cumulative fashion. Findings from the survey will be presented at the upcoming Government Affairs conferences in Las Vegas and Nashville.

Annual Meeting



Did you hear? We recently announced that this year’s Annual Meeting keynote address will be delivered by Campbell Brown. Ms. Brown is an outspoken education reform advocate and former anchor for NBC News and CNN.

Ms. Brown is an engaging public speaker and highly-regarded expert on education issues. After leaving CNN in 2012, Ms. Brown

began focusing on reforming the nation’s education system. Most recently she created The Seventy Four, a “non-profit, non-partisan news site about education.”

In addition to Ms. Brown’s keynote address, this year’s Annual Meeting will feature: Former Governor David Paterson, Former Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy, Former Assemblyman Michael Benjamin, Former Senator George Winner, Capital Tonight host Liz Benjamin, City & State Publisher Andrew Holt, and policy experts from the U.S. Chamber, the administration of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the state Legislature.

There’s still time to register. Simply go to our website, www.bcnys.org and click on events.