

Washington Minimum Wage Increase, Initiative 1433 (2016)



The **Washington Minimum Wage Increase**, also known as **Initiative 1433**, was on the November 8, 2016, ballot in Washington as an initiated state statute. It was **approved**.

A **"yes"** vote supported incrementally raising the state's minimum wage from \$9.47 to \$13.50 by 2020 and mandating employers to offer paid sick leave.

A **"no"** vote opposed both increasing the state minimum wage and mandating employers to offer paid sick leave.^[1]

In November 2016, voters in Arizona, Colorado, and Maine voted on measures to increase their state minimum wages to \$12. Washington's Initiative 1433 was the largest minimum wage increase on the ballot in 2016.

Aftermath

Lawsuit overview

Issue: Single subject; whether Initiative 1433 was about only one subject—as required

Court: Kittitas County Superior Court

Ruling: Ruled against plaintiffs, upholding the initiative as compatible with the state's constitutional single-subject rule

Plaintiff(s): Brad Haberman, National Federation of Independent Business, Northwest Food Processors Association, Washington Farm Bureau, Washington Food Industry Association, Washington Retail Association et al.

Plaintiff argument:

Initiative 1433 was about two subjects: the minimum wage and mandatory paid leave.

Defendant(s): State of Washington and Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson in his official capacity

Defendant argument:

Initiative 1433 was about the single subject of labor standards.

Source: Business Examiner and Seattlepi.com

In February 2017, several businesses and business associations filed litigation against Initiative 1433 in the Kittitas County Superior Court. Plaintiffs in the case include the National Federation of Independent Business, Northwest Food Processors Association, Washington Farm Bureau, Washington Food Industry Association, and Washington Retail Association.^[2] Brad Haberman, the lead plaintiff, said Initiative 1433 violated the state's single-subject rule. Haberman stated, "Initiatives must contain a single subject. We believe I-1433 covers more than one; an increase in the state's minimum wage, but also a new paid leave mandate. Those should have been subject of separate legislation, separate initiatives. Since it doesn't follow the constitution we're taking it to court and trying to get it resolved."^[3]

Judge Scott R. Sparks rejected the challenge on May 2, 2017. He said, "This court is of the opinion that the Plaintiffs have failed to establish that I-1433 has violated the Washington State Constitution in any manner. ... I-1433 deals with a general subject, labor standards. The ballot title specifically gave the public notice that the law dealt with the minimum wage, paid sick leave, and related laws. Inquiring minds were put on notice that the minimum wage and paid sick leave were on the ballot."^[4]

Election results

Initiative 1433		
Result	Votes	Percentage
✔ Yes	1,848,583	57.42%

Washington Minimum Wage Increase, Initiative 1433



Election date

November 8, 2016

Topic

Minimum wage

Status

✔ Approved

Type

State statute

Origin

Citizens

2016 measures



November 8

Initiative 732 ✖

Initiative 735 ✔

Initiative 1433 ✔

Initiative 1464 ✖

Initiative 1491 ✔

Initiative 1501 ✔

Advisory Vote 14 ✔

Advisory Vote 15 ✔

SJR 8210 ✔

Polls

Voter guides

Campaign finance

Signature costs

No	1,370,907	42.58%
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Election results from Washington Secretary of State

Overview

Minimum wage in Washington

In 2016, Washington's minimum wage was \$9.47 per hour. The federal minimum wage was \$7.25. Due to Initiative 668 of 1998, the state's minimum wage increased with the cost of living. Washington had the eighth-highest minimum wage of all U.S. states and D.C. in 2016. In 2014, Seattle became the first major city to approve a \$15 minimum wage. Without Initiative 144, Washington's minimum wage was expected to increase to \$10.28 in 2020.

Changes to state law

Initiative 1433 was designed to increase the state's minimum wage to \$13.50 by January 1, 2020. Thereafter, the minimum wage will be tacked to increases in the cost of living. The measure also required employers to provide employees with paid sick leave. The measure was designed so that employees accrue one hour of paid sick leave for every 40 hours worked.

State of ballot measure campaigns

The Yes on 1433 campaign, know as Raise Up Washington, outraised opponents 51 to 1. Supporters raised \$4.38 million in contributions, while No on 1433 received \$85,385. Venture capitalist Nicolas Hanauer had contributed \$1 million to Raise Up Washington. Washington State Democrats endorse Initiative 1433, and the Washington Republicans came out in opposition to it. Both Hillary Clinton (D) and Bernie Sanders (I) supported the initiative. Polls indicated that support for the measure was around 60 percent prior to the election.

Initiative design

Minimum wage

Initiative 1433 was designed to increase the minimum wage from \$9.47 in 2016 to \$11.00 in 2017, \$11.50 in 2018, \$12.00 in 2019, and \$13.50 in 2020. Beginning in 2021, the minimum wage will be adjusted with inflation.^[1]

Assuming an inflation rate of 2.7 percent in 2021 and 2.6 percent in 2022, the Washington Office of Financial Management estimated the minimum wage to be \$10.56 in 2021 and \$10.83 in 2022 without the initiative. Under Initiative 1433, the office estimated the minimum wage to be \$13.86 in 2021 and \$14.23 in 2022.^[5]

The following table was adapted and modified from the state's voter guide:^[5]

Date	Hourly Rate Under 2016 Law	Hourly Rate Under I-1433	Difference
January 1, 2017	\$9.55	\$11.00	\$1.45
January 1, 2018	\$9.77	\$11.50	\$1.73
January 1, 2019	\$10.02	\$12.00	\$1.98
January 1, 2020	\$10.28	\$13.50	\$3.22
January 1, 2021	\$10.56	\$13.86	\$3.30
January 1, 2022	\$10.83	\$14.23	\$3.40

Paid sick leave

Beginning in 2018, the measure was designed to require employers to provide employees with paid sick leave. At minimum, the measure allowed employees to accrue one hour of paid sick leave for every 40 hours worked. Initiative 1433 permitted employees to earn at least 40 hours of paid sick leave per year. It permitted employees to start using paid sick leave after 90 days with an employer. Unused sick leave was designed to roll over to the following year. For leave lasting more than three consecutive days, the measure authorized employers to ask for proof that an employee's leave would be for authorized purposes.^[1]

The measure allowed employees to use paid sick leave to:^[1]

- accommodate the employee's physical or mental health condition; need for medical diagnosis, care, or treatment; or need for preventative healthcare.
- provide care for a family member's physical or mental health condition; need for medical diagnosis, care, or treatment; or need for preventative healthcare.
- receive compensation when the employee's place of business closes for a health-related reason or when an employee's child's school closes for a health-related reason.
- address legal needs, seek treatment, or obtain services related to domestic violence.

Text of the measure

Ballot title

The ballot title was as follows:^[5]

“ Initiative Measure No. 1433 concerns labor standards.

This measure would increase the state minimum wage to \$11.00 in 2017, \$11.50 in 2018, \$12.00 in 2019, and \$13.50 in 2020, require employers to provide paid sick leave, and adopt related laws.

Should this measure be enacted into law? Yes [] No []^[6]

Ballot summary

The ballot summary was as follows:^[7]

“ This measure would increase the state hourly minimum wage for employees who are at least 18 to \$11.00 in 2017, \$11.50 in 2018, \$12.00 in 2019, and \$13.50 in 2020. The measure would require employers to provide paid sick leave starting in 2018 that employees could use in certain circumstances, including to care for family members (as defined); make the Minimum Wage Act and this measure apply to individual care providers; and adopt related laws.^[6]

Explanatory statement

The explanatory statement was as follows:^[5]

The Law as It Presently Exists

Washington's minimum wage for employees who are at least 18 years old is \$9.47 per hour for 2016. For employees under 18 years old, the Washington Department of Labor and Industries sets the minimum wage. The Department has determined that workers who are 16 or 17 years old must receive the adult minimum wage. Workers who are under 16 years old may be paid 85% of the adult minimum wage, which for 2016 is \$8.05 per hour. Employers must pay overtime wages of at least one and one-half an employee's regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a 7-day work week. Employers cannot use tips as credit toward minimum wages owed to a worker.

Some cities have adopted local laws that require a higher minimum wage within those cities. Where a higher local minimum wage applies, the employer must pay the higher minimum wage. If a federal or local law sets a lower minimum wage than the one

Full text

The full text of the measure was as follows:^[1]

Sec. 1. It is the intent of the people to establish fair labor standards and protect the rights of workers by increasing the hourly minimum wage to \$11.00 (2017), \$11.50 (2018), \$12.00 (2019) and \$13.50 (2020), and requiring employers to provide employees with paid sick leave to care for the health of themselves and their families.

Sec. 2. RCW 49.46.005 and 1961 ex.s. c 18 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Whereas the establishment of a minimum wage for employees is a subject of vital and imminent concern to the people of this state and requires appropriate action by the legislature to establish minimum standards of employment within the state of Washington, therefore the legislature declares that in its considered judgment the health, safety and the general welfare of the citizens of this state require the enactment of this measure, and exercising its police power, the legislature endeavors by this chapter to establish a minimum wage for employees of this state to encourage employment opportunities within the state. The provisions of this chapter are enacted in the exercise

Fiscal impact statement

See also: Fiscal impact statement

The summary section of the fiscal impact statement was as follows:^[5]

“ **Summary**

Initiative 1433 would increase state revenues, and state and local government expenditures, during the next six fiscal years. State revenues would increase due to employers making Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund tax payments on higher wages. State General Fund expenditures would decrease in the first four fiscal years, but increase in the fifth and sixth fiscal years. Expenditures from all other funds would increase in each fiscal year. Increases exceed any decreases in State General Fund spending resulting from the initiative. Local school district expenditures would increase. Other local government expenditure impacts cannot be estimated.^[6]

Background

The minimum wage debate is as old as the United States Department of Labor, an institution established in 1913.^[8] The minimum wage was once debated as an issue of constitutionality. The United States Supreme Court ruled the minimum wage unconstitutional in 1923's *Adkins v. Children's Hospital*, but later reversed course in their *West Coast Hotel v. Parrish* decision in 1937.^[9]

Minimum wage in Washington

The state of Washington increased the minimum wage above the federal government's in 1998, with the passage of Initiative 518. The measure elevated the minimum wage to \$4.25 per hour, which was 90 cents more than the federal government's \$2.30.^[10] In 1998, Washingtonians approved Initiative 688, which increased the minimum wage to \$6.50. As Initiative 688 adjusted the wage for inflation, it gradually increased to \$9.47 in 2016. Washington had the eighth-highest minimum wage in the nation. In 2016, the District of Columbia had the highest wage at \$10.50 per hour.

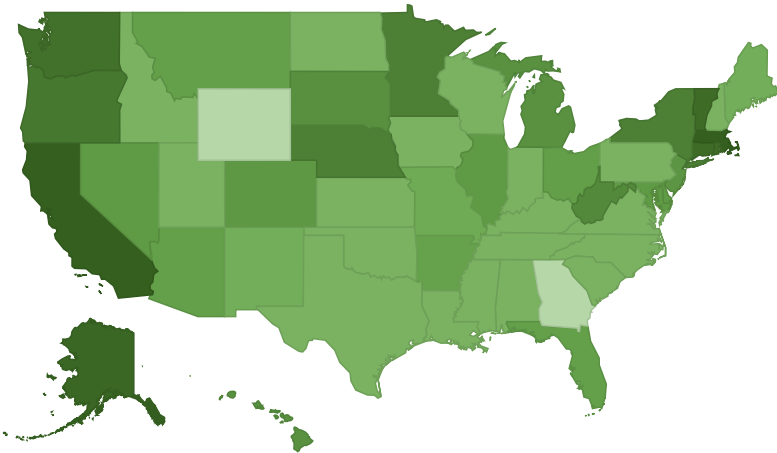
Seattle, Washington, became the first major city to approve a \$15 minimum wage in 2014.^[11]

2016 minimum wages

Below is a chart detailing the minimum wage in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, in 2016. Washington, D.C., had the highest minimum wage at \$10.10 per hour. Georgia and Wyoming both had state minimum wages at \$5.15 per hour, which was below the federal minimum wage.^[12]

Click "Show" in the State column to expand.

State [show]	2016 minimum wage	Rank
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This map was current as of December 31, 2016.

Support

Raise Up Washington, also known as **Yes on I-1433**, led the campaign in support of Initiative 1433.^[15]

Supporters

Officials

- Hillary Clinton (D), 2016 presidential candidate^[16]

Voting on Minimum Wage



Ballot Measures

By state

By year

Not on ballot

Local [\[show\]](#)



- Vermont U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders (I)
- U.S. Sen. Patty Murray (D)^[17]
- U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez (D)
- Gov. Jay Inslee (D)^[18]

Parties

- Washington State Democrats^[19]
- Seattle Socialist Alternative^[20]

Organizations

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Seattle Business Association^[16] • Main Street Alliance of Washington • 21 Progress • American Association of University Women in Washington • Casa Latina • Children's Alliance • The Church Council of Greater Seattle • Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence • Coalition of Immigrants, Refugees & Communities of Color • Economic Opportunity Institute • El Centro de la Raza • Equal Rights Washington • Equity in Education Coalition • Fair Work Center • Faith Action Network • Fuse • Gender Justice League | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Spokane Progress • Jobs for Justice • League of Women Voters • Legacy of Equality, Leadership and Organizing • Legal Voice • LGBTQ Allyship • Low Income Housing Institute • Middle Class Alliance • Moms Rising • NAACP Spokane • NARAL Pro-Choice Washington • National Council of Jewish Women, Seattle • National Employment Law Project • National Organization for Women • National Physicians Alliance^[21] • Seattle National Organization for Women • Northwest Progressive Institute • Planned Parenthood • One America | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One America Votes • Our Revolution^[22] • Progreso: Latino Progress Alliance • Pudget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action • Puget Sound Sage • South Sound Jobs With Justice • Statewide Poverty Action Network • Ultraviolet Action • Washington Bus • Washington CAN! Washington Education Association • Washington Low Income Housing Alliance • Washington NAACP • Washington State Budget & Policy Center Washington State Democrats • WA State Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Working America • Working Washington • YWCA of Seattle |
|--|---|---|

Unions

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Federation of Teachers WA^[16] • Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance • IUPAT DC 5 • IUOE Local 286 • Teamsters Joint Council • ROC United | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEIU 775 • SEIU 925 • SEIU Healthcare • Teamsters 117 • Tenants Union of Washington State • Transit Riders Union | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Food and Commercial Workers Local 21 • United Food and Commercial Workers Local 367 • Washington Federation of State Employees • Washington State Labor Council |
|---|---|---|

Arguments

Supporters made the following arguments in support of Initiative 1433:^[5]

- The initiative would increase the income of more than 730,000 workers.
- The initiative would put \$2.5 billion into local economies.
- The initiative would decrease the spread of disease in the workplace.
- The initiative would allow parents to take care of sick children without worrying about lost income.

Gov. Jay Inslee (D), backing the initiative, argued:^[18]

“ No one who works 40 or more hours a week should struggle to make ends meet. ... And no parent should have to choose between staying home to take care of a sick child or losing a paycheck. Initiative 1433 will lift up workers and families across this state and boost our local economies.^[6]

Barry Fought, owner of Broadcast Coffee, and **Charles Mayer**, a Seattle physician, endorsed the measure, saying:^[23]

“ A phased-in minimum wage increase will lift up more than 730,000 Washingtonians and put \$600 more in the pocket of a minimum-wage worker. The result? About \$2.5 billion in new consumer spending injected into our economy every year, according to the Washington State Budget and Policy Center.

Businesses need customers, and when workers aren't paid enough to support businesses in their communities, we all suffer. But when workers earn more, they spend more. And more customers means businesses make more, and hire more.^[6]

Official arguments

Ariana Davis, **Ron Cole**, **Molly Moon**, owner of Molly Moon's Homemade Ice Cream, **Mary Bell**, **Shahrokh Nikfar**, owner of Café Affogato, and **Don Orange**, owner of Hoesly EcoAutomotive, wrote the argument in favor of Initiative 1433 found in the state's voter guide. Their argument was as follows:^[5]

Initiative 1433 is good for our workers, our families, and our economy

Initiative 1433 ensures every Washington worker can earn paid sick and safe leave and phases in a \$13.50 minimum wage by 2020.

Putting our health and safety first

Washingtonians should be able to take care of themselves or a sick child without having to choose between their family and a paycheck. It's vitally important to pass a common sense law like paid sick leave to help prevent the spread of disease and keep customers, employees, children, the elderly, and our families safe.

When restaurant, grocery, and childcare workers are forced to go to work sick they expose our communities to disease. In fact, 70% of food-related norovirus outbreaks are the result of sick food workers showing up to work.

Creating more economic opportunity

Opposition

No on I-1433 led the campaign in opposition to Initiative 1433.^[24]

Officials

- Chris Vance (R), 2016 U.S. Senate candidate^[17]
- Bill Bryant (R), Port of Seattle Commissioner and 2016 gubernatorial candidate^[25]



Opponents

- Washington State Republican Party^[26]
- Association of Washington Business
- Associated General Contractors of Washington
- Building Industry Association of Washington
- National Federation of Small Business, Washington
- Washington Farm Bureau
- Washington Food Industry Association
- Washington Retail Association

Arguments

Opponents made the following arguments in opposition to Initiative 1433:^[5]

- The initiative did not take into account different costs of living across the state.
- The initiative would make it harder for young people to find jobs.
- The initiative would be unaffordable for small businesses.
- The initiative would increase costs for consumers.

Bill Bryant (R), Port of Seattle Commissioner and 2016 gubernatorial candidate, voted for Proposition 1 in 2013, which was designed to increase Sea-Tac's minimum wage to \$15 per hour. However, he was opposed to Initiative 1433. He argued:^[25]

“ I think if you take a one-size-fits-all approach based on King County's cost of living, it could cost some people to lose their jobs. ... There's a state beyond Seattle and King County. There's a state beyond Seattle and King County. What works here might not work in Longview, Pasco and Cusick.^[6]

Official arguments

John Stuhlmiller, CEO of the Washington Farm Bureau, **Mike LaPlant**, president of the Washington Farm Bureau, **Tammy Bailey**, owner of Bailey's IGA, **Madelin White**, owner of Merle Norman Cosmetics, **Phil Costello**, owner of Zip's Drive-In, and **Kristopher Johnson**, president and CEO of the Association of Washington Business, wrote the argument against Initiative 1433 found in the state's voter guide. Their argument was as follows:^[5]

We do need a minimum wage that benefits everyone – workers, consumers and small businesses – a wage that considers different costs of living across the state, the unique pay structures of certain jobs, and the need for a training wage for new workers. *Unfortunately, I-1433 is a poorly crafted proposal that will do more harm than good for workers and the Washington economy.*

Makes State Budget Problems Worse

The initiative raises \$85 million in new taxes, but will increase state spending by \$363 million. The state is in contempt for failing to fund education and must find billions of dollars to fund our schools. This will make the problem worse.

Seattle Hasn't Delivered

Seattle passed a \$15 per hour minimum wage. The City of Seattle's economists acknowledge the initial increase to \$11 per hour has not benefitted workers. While average pay per hour rose, workers are getting fewer hours and there are fewer jobs available. Meanwhile, consumers are paying

Campaign finance

As of January 12, 2017, the support campaign for this initiative featured one ballot question committee, Raise Up Washington, that received a total of \$4,385,787.83 in contributions. The support campaign spent \$4,385,787.83.^[29]

As of January 12, 2017, the opposition campaign featured one ballot question committee, No On I-1433, that received a total of \$85,384.69 in contributions. The opposition campaign spent \$84,864.64.^[30]

According to reports through January 12, 2017, the top donor in support of this initiative, Nicolas Hanauer, provided approximately 23 percent of the campaign's total funds. He contributed \$1 million in cash donations.^[29]

Support

Cash donations

The following ballot question committee registered to support this initiative as of January 12, 2017. The chart below shows cash donations and expenditures current as of January 12, 2017.^[29]

Committee	Amount raised ^[31]	Amount spent
Raise Up Washington	\$3,474,567.63	\$4,385,787.83
Total	\$3,474,567.63	\$4,385,787.83

In-kind donations

As of January 12, 2017, the ballot question committee registered to support this initiative received in-kind donations in the amount of \$911,220.20. The top in-kind donor was UFCW Local 21.^[29]

Top donors

As of January 12, 2017, the following were the top five donors in support of this initiative. They accounted for 72 percent of total contributions.^[29]

Donor	Amount
Nicolas Hanauer	\$1,000,000.00
SEIU Washington State Council	\$575,000.00
The Fairness Project WA PAC	\$400,000
United Food and Commercial Workers Union	\$350,000.00
UFCW Local 21	\$310,000.00

Opposition

Cash donations

The following ballot question committee registered to oppose this initiative as of January 12, 2017. The chart below shows cash donations and expenditures current as of January 12, 2017.^[30]



Committee	Amount raised ^[32]	Amount spent
No On I-1433	\$69,600.00	\$84,864.64
Total	\$69,600.00	\$84,864.64

In-kind donations

As of January 12, 2017, the ballot question committee registered to oppose this initiative received in-kind donations in the amount of \$15,784.69. The Washington Hospitality Association was the largest in-kind donor, contributing \$8,749.50.^[30]

Top donors

As of January 12, 2017, the following were the top five donors in opposition to this initiative:^[29]

Total campaign contributions ^[27] <i>as of January 12, 2017</i> ^[28]	
 Support:	\$4,385,787.83
 Opposition:	\$85,384.69

Donor	Amount
Washington Restaurant Association	\$28,546.73
Association of Washington Business	\$17,875.00
Washington Food Industry Association	\$10,000.00
Washington Retail Association	\$10,000.00
Washington Hospitality Association	\$8,749.50

Methodology

Ballotpedia calculates campaign finance based on the political committees registered to support or oppose a measure and independent expenditure when relevant and available. When a committee is registered to support or oppose multiple measures it is impossible to distinguish between funds used for one measure and funds used for the other.

In calculating campaign finance for supporting and opposing committees, Ballotpedia does not count donations or expenditures from one ballot measure committee to another since that would amount to counting the same money twice. This method is used to give the most accurate information concerning how much funding was actually provided to and spent by the opposing and supporting campaigns.

Ballotpedia subtracts out committee-to-committee contributions—both cash donations and in-kind contributions. Because of this, it is possible for certain committees to have negative contributions. Negative contributions mean that a committee has provided more contributions to other committees than it has received. If expenditures exceed contributions, it means the committee has accrued unpaid bills, has unpaid or unforgiven loans, or has contributed a certain amount of in-kind services to another committee.

Ballotpedia provides information about all reported in-kind donations. In-kind contributions are also counted toward total expenditures since, with in-kind gifts, the contribution and services or goods are provided simultaneously. Ballotpedia does this to provide the most accurate information about the cash-on-hand of supporting and opposing campaigns.

Media editorials

Support

- ***The Seattle Times*** said: "The minimum-wage experiment is sweeping the nation because it has a simple premise: A job ought not to be a poverty trap. [...] An estimated 730,000 workers in Washington make the minimum wage of \$9.47. If a worker didn't take a single hour of vacation in a year they'd earn \$19,697, which is below the poverty line for a family of three. [...] That wage floor must rise. Voters should say yes to Initiative 1433, but also demand the Legislature fix some of the initiative's flaws. [...] I-1433 is a big experiment. But for the sake of hundreds of thousands of low-wage workers, Washington should give it a try."^[33]
- ***Seattle Weekly*** said: "I-1433 protects workers, increases public health, and stands as a partial antidote to the incredible poverty and inequality that pervades our society. Vote yes."^[34]
- ***The Stranger*** said: "Wages for low-income workers have been stagnant for decades. This initiative would put an extra \$600 a month in an estimated 730,000 people's pockets. Yes, we're already headed toward a higher minimum wage here in Seattle (\$15 an hour) because we're awesome and ahead of the curve. Give a raise to the rest of the state. Vote yes on Initiative 1433."^[35]

Opposition

- ***The Columbian*** said: "As the nation has moved from a manufacturing economy to a service-based one, the notion of the minimum wage as being solely for entry-level or part-time workers has been rendered obsolete. There is a need for a robust minimum wage to support working families, but in our opinion Initiative 1433 goes too far."^[36]
- ***The Daily News*** said: "If passed, the effects of I-1433 will be many. Some workers will benefit from receiving higher pay, but not nearly as many as supporters believe. Businesses will be forced to raise the price of goods and services, hire fewer workers, reduce hours, turn full-time roles into part-time jobs, invest in more automation and pay more people 'under the table.' When employers or people face higher taxes, which a higher minimum wage effectively is to businesses, they will do what they can to avoid the higher cost. Will workers and business be better off in the end? We don't think so."^[37]
- ***The News Tribune***: "The initiative is an understandable attempt to address a bleak reality: Though the U.S. can pat itself on the back for an historic economic recovery, it failed to reach millions of middle- and low-income workers. ... There's no question the raise proposed in I-1433 would be meaningful purchasing power for a working single mother, but it could also be crippling for the business that employs her. ... A reasonable number around which a compromise could be forged is \$12."^[38]
- ***Spokane Journal of Business*** said: "Unfortunately, due to its myopic one-size-fits-all approach and its lack of exemptions, such as the sick leave component and the need for a training wage for new workers, it could do more harm than good as currently written. Voters should reject it in the Nov. 8 general election and should prod the Legislature to find some thoughtful, common-sense middle ground that would be appropriate and fair for all areas of the state."^[39]
- ***The Tacoma News Tribune*** said: "Ours is an 80-percent service-sector economy; it depends on consumers with spendable incomes. But if employers cut back or go out of business because of an arbitrarily high wage floor, it's the workers who ultimately will have nothing to stand on."^[40]

- **Walla Walla Union-Bulletin** said: "But the rest of Washington state, the small cities and rural communities such as Walla Walla, College Place, Waitsburg and Dayton, would likely be hurt economically by such a dramatic jump in the minimum wage. We fear the result would be lost jobs and less hiring of young people entering the work force. The rest of the state's economy outside of a few pockets has been flat. Trying to keep up with Seattle would be counter productive."^[41]

Polls

See also: *Polls, 2016 ballot measures*

- In August 2016, Elway Poll released data showing 57 percent of respondents in support of and 31 percent opposed to Initiative 1433. About 12 percent were undecided on the measure.^[42]
- **KOMO News** and **Strategies 360** released a poll in early October 2016 showing support for Initiative 1433 at 61.8 percent. Opposition was around 26.6 percent.^[43]
- YouGov conducted a poll in mid-October 2016 and found 62 percent of respondents supporting Initiative 1433.^[44]

Note: YouGov pressed "undecided" respondents to select a position. Respondents were also allowed to skip the question. In the poll table below, "undecided" respondents are those who chose to skip the question.
- In October 2016, Elway Poll surveyed 502 registered voters. Supporters claimed 58 percent of respondents, while opponents claimed 31 percent. Undecided voters composed 11 percent of the sample.^[45]

Washington Initiative 1433 (2016)						[hide]
Poll	Support	Oppose	Undecided	Margin of Error	Sample Size	
Elway Poll 10/20/2016 - 10/22/2016	58.0%	31.0%	11.0%	+/-4.5	502	
YouGov 10/6/2016 - 10/13/2016	62.0%	36.0%	2.0%	+/-4.4	750	
KOMO News/Strategies 360 9/29/2016 - 10/3/2016	61.8%	26.6%	1.6%	+/-4.4	500	
Elway Poll 8/9/2016 - 8/8/2013	57.0%	31.0%	12.0%	+/-4.5	500	
AVERAGES	59.7%	31.15%	6.65%	+/-4.45	563	

Note: A "0%" finding means the candidate was not a part of the poll. The polls above may not reflect all polls that have been conducted in this race. Those displayed are a random sampling chosen by Ballotpedia staff. If you would like to nominate another poll for inclusion in the table, send an email to editor@ballotpedia.org.

Path to the ballot

See also: *Laws governing the initiative process in Washington*

- Supporters filed the petition with the Washington secretary of state on January 12, 2016.^[7]
- 246,372 valid signatures are required for qualification purposes.
- Supporters had until July 8, 2016, to collect the required signatures.
- Supporters of I-1433 submitted over 360,000 signatures on July 6, 2016.^[46]
- While there were numerous versions of this measure, supporters submitted signatures only for Initiative #1433.^[47]
- The Washington secretary of state's office certified the measure on July 22, 2016.^[48]

Cost of signature collection:

Sponsors of the measure hired PCI Consultants Inc. to collect signatures for the petition to qualify this measure for the ballot. A total of \$516,270.25 was spent to collect the 246,372 valid signatures required to put this measure before voters, resulting in a total cost per required signature (CPRS) of \$2.10.

Recent news

The link below is to the most recent stories in a Google news search for the terms **Washington Initiative 1433 2016 Minimum Wage**. These results are automatically generated from Google. Ballotpedia does not curate or endorse these articles; they are included to provide readers with the most recent news articles on the subject. Click here to learn more about this section.





Washington Minimum Wage Increase, Initiative 1433 (2016) - Google News Feed

- Washington Paid Sick Leave Update: Top 10 Things Every Washington Employer Needs to Know Now - Lexology
- Voters approve minimum wage increase to \$13.50 in Washington state - The Seattle Times

- Increasing The Minimum Wage, Creating Jobs, And Funding Social Security - Huffington Post
- Biz groups give up legal challenge to minimum wage, paid leave initiative - The Spokesman-Review (blog)
- Attorney General Bob Ferguson defends voter-approved minimum wage, paid leave initiative in court - Access Washington
- Connelly: Judge rebuffs business challenge to state minimum-wage law - seattlepi.com
- Lessons from Seattle's courageous minimum-wage experiment - The Seattle Times
- Tacoma should not rush to blow up a paid sick-leave policy that is benefiting workers - The News Tribune (blog)
- Looking Ahead: New Minimum Wage Rates - Bloomberg BNA
- Measure to lift minimum wage to \$13.50 statewide has Washington divided - The Seattle Times

Related measures

2016

Minimum wage measures on the ballot in 2016	
State	Measures
Arizona	Arizona Minimum Wage and Paid Time Off, Proposition 206 
Colorado	Colorado \$12 Minimum Wage, Amendment 70 
Maine	Maine Minimum Wage Increase, Question 4 
South Dakota	South Dakota Decreased Youth Minimum Wage Veto Referendum, Referred Law 20 

See also

- Washington 2016 ballot measures
- 2016 ballot measures
- Washington Legislature
- Minimum wage reports and analyses



External links

Basic information

- Initiative 1433
- Washington State Voter Guide 2016

Support

- Raise Up Washington
- Raise Up Washington Facebook
- Raise Up Washington Twitter

Opposition

- No on I-1433

Footnotes

1. *Washington Secretary of State*, "Initiative Measure No. 1433," accessed September 20, 2016
2. *Business Examiner*, "NFIB seeks to kill I-1433 'sick leave,'" February 16, 2017
3. *KPQ*, "Lawsuit Filed Over Minimum Wage Initiative," February 17, 2017
4. *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, "Connelly: Judge rebuffs business challenge to state minimum-wage law," May 2, 2017
5. *Washington Secretary of State*, "Voters' Guide 2016 General Election," accessed September 20, 2016
6. *Note: This text is quoted verbatim from the original source. Any inconsistencies are attributed to the original source.*
7. *Washington Secretary of State*, "Proposed Initiatives to the People - 2016," accessed February 9, 2016
8. *The Atlantic*, "Helpful, Harmful, or Hype? 5 Economists Weigh In on Obama's Minimum-Wage Proposal," February 13, 2013
9. *PBS*, "Adkins v. Children's Hospital (1923)," accessed August 23, 2014
10. *U.S. Department of Labor*, "History of Federal Minimum Wage Rates Under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 1938 - 2009," accessed September 20, 2016
11. *BBC*, "Seattle's great minimum wage experiment," June 22, 2016
12. *National Conference of State Legislators*, "2016 Minimum Wage by State," July 19, 2016

Categories:	Washington 2016 ballot measures		State ballots, 2016		State Ballot Measure, November 8, 2016		Approved, 2016
	Approved, November 8, 2016		Minimum wage, Washington		Minimum wage, 2016		Certified, minimum wage, 2016
	Washington 2016 ballot measures, certified		Initiated statute certified for the 2016 ballot		Current measure lawsuit		
	Ballot measure with lawsuit, 2017		Ballot measure lawsuit about Single subject		Ballot measure lawsuit about Post-election		
	Ballot measure with lawsuit, Washington		Ballot measure with lawsuit, Washington, 2017		Ballot measure article with polls		
