

STATEMENT

Rebecca Bennett supports radical wage mandates that would crush New Jersey small businesses, kill jobs, and drive up the cost of everyday goods for families.

Verification

Bennett Repeatedly Advocated For Increasing The Minimum Wage To \$25 An Hour

AUDIO: In May 2026, Bennett Supported Raising The Minimum Wage To \$25 An Hour.

QUESTIONER: “I was wondering, will you continue to help stand with the minimum wage requirement of \$25 that Congressman Mejia put in so that young Americans like me can actually prosper as we continue to go through the 21st century.” BENNETT: “So the short answer to your question is yes. You know, I’ll just say to me this is, you know we are living through affordability crisis right now so it’s about what can we do.” (Rebecca Bennett, [Comments At A Campaign Meet And Greet](#), Bernardsville, NJ, 5/27/26) Minute 44:02-44:22

VIDEO: In May 2026, Bennett Said She Believes The Minimum Wage Should Be Raised To Up To \$25 An Hour.

QUESTIONER: “Should we increase the federal minimum wage.” BENNETT: “I think we should, yes.” QUESTIONER: “To what?” BENNETT: “I signed on to a couple of my, I’m grateful to have the support of several labor unions. But I believe we should work towards up to a \$25 minimum wage.” (Rebecca Bennett, [Comments At A NJ-07 Democratic Primary Debate](#), 5/27/26) Minutes 54:03-54:15

VIDEO: In May 2026, Bennett Raised Her Hand When Asked If She Agreed That The Minimum Wage Should Be Increased To \$25 An Hour. WILDSTEIN: “Congresswoman Mejia recently proposed a \$25 an hour federal minimum wage. Raise your hand if you would vote with her on that.” (Rebecca Bennett, [NJ-07 Democratic Primary Debate](#), 5/12/26) Minutes 1:34:34-1:34:48

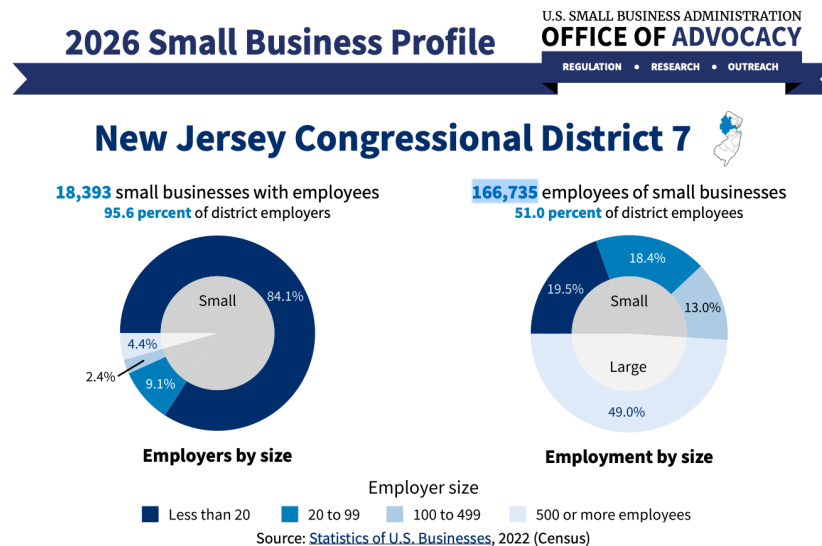


(Rebecca Bennett, [NJ-07 Democratic Primary Debate](#), 5/12/26) Minutes 1:34:34-1:34:48

A February 2026 Report Found That Raising The Minimum Wage Just One Dollar Could Lead To Prices Increasing By 5.5%. “Economists studying wage hikes over decades have found minimum wage increases contribute to inflation by raising costs of everyday goods and services. That means wage hikes push affordability further out of reach. A majority of American labor economists surveyed by EPI reported that higher minimum wages increase the overall cost of living, particularly for lower-income households.¹ One review of U.S. minimum wage studies, shows raising the minimum wage \$1 above the current \$7.25 federal rate could trigger price increases of up to 5.5%.²” (Minimum Wage Hikes Will Worsen The Affordability Crisis, [Employment Policies Institute](#), February 2026)

Increasing The Minimum Wage “Can Significantly Harm Small Businesses,” Leading To Fewer Jobs And Higher Consumer Costs. “Increased labor costs through minimum wage hikes can significantly harm small businesses, leading to fewer jobs, reduced benefits, and ultimately higher prices for consumers to cover the new costs. According to comprehensive reviews of the available economic research, there is a “clear preponderance” of evidence showing the detrimental impact of mandated wage hikes on employment.” (Christina Smith, “The Unintended Consequences of Minimum Wage Hikes,” [Protecting Taxpayers Alliance](#), 1/5/26)

In 2026, A Report Found That NJ-07 Is Home To 18,393 Small Businesses That Employ 166,735 Workers. (New Jersey Congressional District Small Business Profiles, [U.S. Small Business Administration Office Of Advocacy](#), February 2026)



(New Jersey Congressional District Small Business Profiles, [U.S. Small Business Administration Office Of Advocacy](#), February 2026)

HEADLINE: New Jersey Senator Andy Kim’s \$25 Minimum Wage Demand Could Trigger Job Losses, Higher Costs and Automation (“New Jersey Senator Andy Kim’s \$25 Minimum Wage Demand Could Trigger Job Losses, Higher Costs and Automation,” [Shore News Network](#), 6/29/26)

In June 2026, Experts Warned Raising The Minimum Wage To \$25 An Hour Could “Substantially Raise Labor Costs” And Cause Employers To Reduce Hiring. “The proposal would raise the federal minimum wage from its current \$7.25 an hour to \$25 an hour, one of the largest increases ever proposed at the federal level. Business groups and many economists have warned that such a significant increase could substantially raise labor costs, particularly for restaurants, retailers, manufacturers and other labor-intensive industries. Critics argue employers may respond by reducing hiring, cutting employee hours, eliminating entry-level positions, accelerating investments in automation or increasing prices to offset higher payroll expenses.” (“New Jersey Senator Andy Kim’s \$25 Minimum Wage Demand Could Trigger Job Losses, Higher Costs and Automation,” [Shore News Network](#), 6/29/26)