



SOUTH FLORIDA BUSINESS COUNCIL

November 7, 2020

Last Tuesday, Florida voters approved a constitutional amendment to increase the minimum wage gradually until it reaches \$15 per hour in September 2026.

While the South Florida Business Council does not believe this subject belongs in our state constitution, we recognize it's now most important to look forward and ensure we support businesses as they prepare to comply with the change beginning in September of 2021.

Clearly there are industries, many impacted by COVID-19, that will struggle more to survive in the face of additional financial pressure. While there is hope that higher paid workers will spend more money and stimulate economic growth, it likely will not be enough to ease these concerns.

However, we know the schedule for implementation, we know the industries most challenged by the change, and we now need to be prepared to engage appropriate measures to support businesses to allow them to adapt in a way that minimizes staff reductions or price increases.

We can all agree that more economic stability for employees reduces poverty and is certainly a worthy goal. Let's work together to ensure the intent of this amendment is achieved to everyone's benefit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.P. Seiler', written in a cursive style.

John P. Jack Seiler, Chair
South Florida Business Council