

Kingdom Congress of Illinois

Biblical Resolution Concerning Minimum Wage B1408

Preamble

We the citizens of the Kingdom Congress* in order to apply God's eternal principles, limit boundary violations, empower legitimate economic stewardship, and release just economic laws, do hereby declare that wage control falls under the jurisdiction of free will contracts* negotiated between employer and employee without partisan* action from the civil sphere coercing* either party by fear of civil sanctions. Therefore, we do decree and affirm the following resolution* pertaining to Minimum Wage*, effective immediately.

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Section 1: Short Title

Biblical Resolution* Minimum Wage*

Section 5: Definitions

(Items followed by an * are defined below)

- (a) Charitable cases – those persons who are unable to supply for themselves through honest labor, such as widows and orphans who have no family member to aid in their care, the physically or mentally handicapped, those who have undergone a disaster, and some indigent. Some persons may be in need of biblical charity for a short window of time until they can again care for their own estate
- (b) Charitable services – beneficial provisions and comforts offered through fraternal organizations, which are supported by freewill offerings and are independent of civil leagues or financing, that provide relief or assistance to people in need or to society in a time of crisis
- (c) Citizens of the Kingdom Congress – individuals who first and foremost are citizens of the Kingdom of God and, therefore, qualify to vote as a member of the Kingdom Congress of Illinois by verifying their belief in an affirmation to the basic tenets of the Christian faith
- (d) Coercing – compelling by force, intimidation, or authority, especially without regard for individual desire or volition
- (e) Coercive advantage – a position of superiority or ascendancy that is acquired through coercion
- (f) Common defense - creation of a military strategy in a nation to protect its citizens in case of any conflict with a foreign nation. Within the United States, all states come together and form a unified force funded by the federal government as opposed to each state working alone.
- (g) Contracts – a freewill agreement that defines the terms of exchange of goods and services between two or more parties and that is enforceable by law
- (h) Contractual laws – laws that endorse the creation of free will contracts and define civil penalties against those who break contracts, including the terms of restitution from the transgressor to the wronged party in the contract
- (i) Covenant keeping – fulfilling the terms of a man to man contract or a man to God vow; living out promises and pledges
- (j) Dominion Mandate – God's commission to mankind, who was created in the image of God and given dominion over the created order, to take responsibility to manage the earth and to make the earth fruitful (Gen. 1:26-28)
- (k) Economic engineering – the introduction into the market of artificial indicators by bureaucrats in an attempt to bend the market in the way they deem beneficial or expedient or in keeping with their ideologies

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- (l) Entitlement – a guarantee of access to something, such as a welfare benefit, established by legislation based upon the notion or belief that one has a right to some particular reward or benefit
- (m) Fraternal organizations – voluntary associations or a brotherhood of people who bind together for common interest completely free of civil interference or empowerment
- (n) Free will contract – agreements made for the exchange of goods and services that are enacted without coercion from either party or from the civil realm
- (o) General welfare – the sum total of social conditions which allow people, whether groups or individuals, to reach their fulfillment more completely and with less hindrances or obstacles
- (p) Minimum wage – a set hourly income to be paid an employee that is legislated by civil law and imposed upon employers upon threat of civil sanction
- (q) Partisan action – practices or laws enacted by an adherent or supporter of a person, group, party, or cause that shows a biased allegiance
- (r) Personal liberties – freedom to act according to one's conscience under the stipulations of God's Word and under civil laws that do not contradict God's Word
- (s) Plunder – forceful seizing of the products of another person's labor
- (t) Resolution – a formal statement of opinion or determination adopted by the assembly of Kingdom Congress
- (u) Spheres – those spheres of diversified and specialized areas of labor through which men cooperate to fulfill the Dominion Mandate* and which, for the purpose of Kingdom Congress, will be identified as Religion, Family, Education, Civil Government, Media, Arts and Entertainment, and Business
- (v) Weak or oppressed – biblical idiom for those persons who are less likely to have an advocate or to be their own advocate in matters of provision or justice, such as the widow, the orphan, the poor, or the handicapped

Section 10: The Ten Commandments framework as concerning Minimum wage*:

Ex: 20:3, Commandment #1: "No other gods"

Ex. 20:15, Commandment #8: "Do not steal"

Ex. 20:16, Commandment #9: "Do not bear false witness"

Section 15: Cooperation of the Spheres

In the execution of the Dominion Mandate*, humanity diversifies and specializes into spheres of cultural activity. Each sphere* derives its authority and limitations from scripture. The three primary spheres that have governance in the issue of Minimum Wage*, are Business, Civil government, and Religion. The preeminent responsibility rests upon the Business sphere to establish wages through free will contracts* between

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employer and employee. The Civil sphere is required to protect the parties of established contracts by prosecuting breaches. The Religion sphere is mandated to herald biblical patterns which promote covenant keeping*, just laws, and charitable practices.

Section 20: Duties, Powers, and Limitations

(a) BUSINESS

The Duties of Business

- (1) The duty of business is to operate within the organized systems of men's labors, time and assets for the production, distribution and consumption of material goods and the methodology by which men exchange those commodities in the context of society (Ps. 128:2; Jn. 4:38).
- (2) The duty of business is to make free will contracts* to establish employee wages and benefits.
- (3) The duty of business is to honor the terms of the contract (Mat. 5:37, James 5:12, Ps. 15:4).
- (4) The duty of business is to safeguard the biblical law to "Love thy neighbor as thyself" (Lev. 19:18, Mt. 19:19, Mk. 12:31, Rom. 13:9, Gal. 5:14, James 2:8).

The Powers of Business

- (1) The power of all business is derived from goods, services and properties, whether real or intellectual and the exchange of those commodities between employer and employee through the establishment of free will contracts*.
- (2) Business has the authority to operate without the imposition of economic engineering* in the form of minimum wage laws* or any type of plunder*.
- (3) Business has the power to incentivize employees through additional benefits such as education, bonuses, and insurance without government mandates that negate the conditional terms of individual contracts.
- (4) Business has the power to create fraternal organizations* to facilitate contract negotiations and promote better business practices.

The Limitations of Business

The biblical limitations of the Business sphere regarding wages* mandates that employers and employees shall not:

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- (1) Make or implement contracts through deceit, fraud, or by taking advantage of the weak or oppressed*
- (2) Break or deviate from the terms of the negotiated contract
- (3) League with the civil sphere to gain a coercive advantage* in contract negotiations
- (4) Utilize the fraternal organizations* illegitimately through violence, vandalism, mid-contract strikes, or leaguings with the civil sphere

b) CIVIL GOVERNMENT

The Duties of Civil Government

- (1) The duty of the Civil Government sphere is to ensure the free exercise of biblically-defined personal liberties*, promote the general welfare*, provide for the common defense*, pay civil debt, and establish and enforce just contractual laws* through legislative, executive, and judicial bodies.

The Powers of the Civil Government

- (1) The power of the Civil Government is derived from God to restrain lawlessness, guard against contract breaking, and execute judgment against the lawbreaker (Rom. 13: 1-5; Ex. 18: 21).
- (2) The Civil sphere is granted authority to organize justice and provide equal and unbiased protection for all.
- (3) The Civil government is authorized to protect the voice of the advocate for the weak or oppressed* without fear of retribution.

The Limitations of Civil Government

The biblical limitation of the Civil Government sphere regarding wages mandates that the Government shall not:

- (1) Set a minimum wage
- (2) Enact laws that favor either employer or employee in contract negotiations
- (3) Mandate stipulations or benefits within contracts
- (4) League with any voluntary fraternity to illegitimately empower one party over the other

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(5) Make laws that seek to equalize economic status through plunder*

(c) RELIGION

The Duties of Religion

- (1) The duty of the Religion sphere is to restore man to the responsibility, power and authority that God originally entrusted to Adam and again made accessible to man by the redemptive work of Christ through preaching, teaching, and discipleship.
- (2) The role of the Religion sphere is to serve as God's voice by heralding His precepts to the culture, thereby calling private practices and public policies into alignment.
- (3) According to Matthew 5:14-15, the Religion sphere is to serve society by shining forth the light of the truth of God's Word, which exposes false ideologies, reveals errant practices, and illuminates a righteous course to build a just marketplace.
- (4) According to Matthew 5:13, the Religion sphere is to be the salt, or preserving factor, to society by providing charitable services during seasons when men's practices become corrupt and bring associated ills upon the citizens.

The Powers of Religion

- (1) The original power of the Religion sphere is derived from God who offers a covenant to His servants and imbues His hierarchy with authority to use His Name and His Word to implement His Kingdom over all earthly the spheres of men.
- (2) The Earthly influence of the Religion sphere exponentially increases when the proclamation of truth converts hearts and charitable acts influence souls so that the populace voluntarily collaborates with the Religion sphere to advance God's Kingdom principles.
- (3) The Religion sphere has the power to affirm that freely negotiated contracts between employer and employee are the biblical standard for the setting of wages and benefits and that those contracts must be free from civil or other external, coercive intervention.
- (4) The Religion sphere has the power to establish charitable organizations without civil interference or regulations pertaining to the fiscal or organizational operation of the charity.

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The Limitations of Religion

The biblical limitation of Religion regarding minimum wage* mandates that Religion shall not:

- (1) Use ecclesiastical authority or collaborative influence to skew the terms of free will contract* negotiations between employer and employee
- (2) Support any civil law or intervention whose end is to mandate the terms of wages and benefits
- (3) Validate individuals or fraternal organizations* that have leagued with the Civil sphere to facilitate plunder*

Section 25: Applicability

The principles contained within this resolution apply specifically to the Business, Civil and Religion spheres, and, in general, to organizations or individuals who contract for wages and benefits.

Section 30: Sanctions

(a) BUSINESS

Negative Sanctions

- (1) Employers and/or employees that produce unrighteous contracts through fraudulent representation of facts or that breach terms of ratified contracts may:
 - Forfeit the blessing of God
 - Incur civil prosecution and penalties
 - Discredit their reputation
- (2) Employers or employees that league with the Civil Sphere to utilize the power of law to unjustly weight the terms of the contract resulting in plunder* may:
 - Destroy the trust factor in the marketplace
 - Foster financial instability in the system
 - Invite national biblical sanctions

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Positive Sanctions

- (1) Employers and/or employees that practice biblical principles when contracting for wages and benefits may:
 - Provide opportunity to the under-employed
 - Encourage entry level employment
 - Liberate the employer to make choices in application of capital
 - Promote merit based advancement
 - Foster peaceful working relationships

(b) CIVIL

Negative Sanctions

- (1) The Civil sphere that legislates the terms of wages and benefits or uses the power of law in coercive contract negotiations violates the God appointed role of government and:
 - Violates Commandment #1 by usurping power to create laws contrary to God's law
 - Prosecutes private plunder* while exempting itself from the consequences of legislated plunder*
 - Violates Commandment #8 and incurs the judgment of God for the criminal act of theft
 - Subjects itself to a diminished or displaced position of power on both national and/or international platforms
- (2) The Civil sphere that leagues with employers or employees using the force of law to weight contracts may produce:
 - A loss of individual liberties and personal headship
 - Civil unrest
 - Economic hardship
 - Increased entitlement* programs
 - Social and economic engineering*
 - Socialist and communist agendas

Positive Sanctions

- (1) When the Civil sphere abides within its God-appointed boundaries, allows the marketplace to be free from civil intervention, and does not support plunder in any of its laws, the nation shall:
 - Enjoy fiscal opportunity and liberty (Deut. 28:3-6)
 - Experience growth in its GDP (Deut. 28:8, 11)
 - Avoid inflation and increased cost of goods due to scarcity (Dt. 28:8, 11)
 - Decrease its national debt (Deut. 28:12-13)
 - Become a banking hub for other nations (Deut. 28:12-13)

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- (2) When the Civil sphere provides prosecutorial justice for contract violations in an unbiased manner for all its citizens, the nation shall:
- Restore faith and trust in the marketplace and private entrepreneurship
 - Have an increased measure of righteousness and holy deeds in neighbor to neighbor interactions (Deut. 28:9-10)

(d) RELIGION

Negative Sanctions

- (1) The Religion sphere that fails to communicate the truth of God's Word and the righteous application of the Word has failed in its assignment to be the light of the world (Mt. 5:14-16) and may:
- Fail to reprove corrupt works (Rom. 13:12; Eph. 5:11)
 - Be unsuccessful in converting men's hearts and practices to a godly pattern
 - Suffer the disciplines of God that can range from corrective chastisements (Heb. 12:6-11) to forfeiture of leadership positions within the Kingdom of God (Rev. 2:5)
- (2) The Religion sphere that fails to provide and support charitable institutions either by abdicating responsibility to the civil sphere or through negligence of its God-appointed mandate has failed in its assignment to be the salt of the earth (Mt. 5:13) and may:
- Fail in its God-given mandate to do the works of Christ (Matt. 25:35-46; Is. 58:6-7; Prov. 25:20-22; Lk. 10:29-37)
 - May forfeit its place of influence in the earth, which might cause it to suffer subjugation by the ungodly (Mt. 5:13)

Positive Sanctions

- (1) The Religion sphere that keeps the commandments and functions as the pillar and ground of truth may:
- Influence culture with Kingdom economic policies
 - Provide a plum line for public policies and sound prosecutorial laws
- (2) The Religion sphere that practices charity and serves humanity may:
- Reveal the nature and love of God to people through deeds of mercy
 - Influence the hearts of individuals for repentance and conversion
 - Experience the blessings of God and His enabling power on their works