

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

14-0082R

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR RAISING THE STATE MINIMUM WAGE.

BY COUNCILORS GARDNER, JULSRUD AND LARSON:

WHEREAS, in the richest nation on earth, it is simply wrong for anyone who works full time to live in poverty; and

WHEREAS, in Minnesota, 357,000 low-wage workers deserve a raise; they help us raise our children, care for our aging parents, clean our offices, serve our food and more; they help everybody else do their jobs, yet they do not share the prosperity they help create; their professions have been undervalued for far too long and it's time to make their hard work pay; and

WHEREAS, full-time wages for someone earning \$7.25 an hour come to only \$15,080 a year and that is not enough to meet basic needs; and

WHEREAS, in a Minnesota family with two full-time working adults and two children, each parent needs to earn \$14.03 an hour just to meet basic needs; and

WHEREAS, based on data contained in the 2012 American Community Survey, raising the minimum wage to \$9.50 an hour would pump more than \$470 million in consumer spending power to fuel Minnesota's economy; and

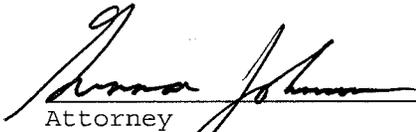
WHEREAS, in Duluth specifically there are an estimated 8,923 residents who would benefit from raising the minimum wage resulting in an estimated economic impact of \$12.6 million; and

WHEREAS, although raising the minimum wage to \$9.50 an hour remains popular, with support consistently polling above 70%, this strong public support has not translated into action by the Minnesota legislature.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Duluth city council hereby expresses its support for the campaign to ask the Minnesota legislature to raise the minimum wage to at least \$9.50 an hour by 2015 and index it to inflation.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the council additionally urges area legislators to commit their support to this initiative.

Approved as to form:



Attorney

CCREQ/ATY SG:cjh 1/31/2014

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution expresses council support for the Minnesota legislature to raise the minimum wage to at least \$9.50 an hour by 2015 and index it to inflation.