

# LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS



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207 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036 phone 667-1780 • New York address: 55 West 42nd St., New York 10036, phone 564-3450

For Immediate Action

MEMO: No. 11-73  
September 12, 1973

TO: Participating Organizations

FROM: Arnold Aronson, Secretary

HELP PERSUADE CONGRESS TO OVERRIDE THE VETO ON MINIMUM WAGE!

On Wednesday, September 19, the attempt will be made in the House of Representatives to override President Nixon's veto of the Minimum Wage bill. By a flood of wires, phone calls and messages we must persuade two-thirds of the House to vote to override.

### It's Not Inflationary

In his veto message and statements, President Nixon claims the bill Congress passed by overwhelming margins will "give an enormous boost to inflation." Nothing supports that argument. Raising the minimum wage from the present \$1.60 an hour (unchanged since 1966) to an eventual \$2.20 an hour would have a negligible effect on rising costs. In the first year of the increase, total wages would be raised by only 0.4 per cent, according to the administration's own figures. In later years the effects would be even smaller. Just to keep up with the increase in the cost of living since 1966, as the Washington Post points out, Congress "would have had to raise the minimum to \$2.32 last July instead of \$2.20 by next July."

The President's concern with inflation does not extend apparently to mounting profits for business. Instead, he seems ready to let the brunt of inflation fall on those least able to bear it.

Workers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act are not the only ones hurt by the President's veto. He also thwarts the hopes of some 7 million workers who would be covered by the bill for the first time --- state and local government employees for the most part and about 1 million household domestic workers. Professing solicitude for unemployed teenagers, he rejects the bill because it does not establish a subminimum wage for them, a floor below the floor, a wage that would not increase the number of jobs open to them but rather encourage low profit-margin industries to fire the parents and hire the children.

## PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

ACTORS EQUITY  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH  
ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.  
ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.  
AMALGAMATED CLOTHING WORKERS OF AMERICA  
AMALGAMATED MEAT CUTTERS & BUTCHER WORKMEN  
AMERICAN BAPTIST CONVENTION — DIVISION OF SOCIAL CONCERN  
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION  
AMERICAN ETHICAL UNION  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR — CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE COUNTY & MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
AMERICAN GI FORUM  
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE  
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS  
AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION  
AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE  
AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION  
ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH  
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE  
B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN  
BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS  
CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN - BRETHREN SERVICE COMMISSION  
CHURCH WOMEN UNITED  
CITIZENS LOBBY FOR FREEDOM & FAIR PLAY  
CONGRESS OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN ORGANIZATION, INC.  
COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION  
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH—DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION  
FRANCISCAN SOCIAL ACTION TEAM  
FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION  
FRONTIERS INTERNATIONAL  
FRONTLASH  
HADASSAH  
HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES AND BARTENDERS INTERNATIONAL UNION  
IMPROVED BENEVOLENT & PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS OF THE WORLD  
INDUSTRIAL UNION DEPARTMENT — AFL-CIO  
INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS' UNION OF AMERICA  
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS  
IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.  
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE  
JEWISH WAR VETERANS  
KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY  
LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES  
LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA — BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY  
LUTHERAN HUMAN RELATIONS ASSOCIATION  
MEDICAL COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
NATIONAL AFRO-AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL  
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF POSTAL & FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF POSTAL & FEDERAL EMPLOYEES — NATIONAL WOMEN'S AUXILIARY  
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT, INC.  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PUERTO RICAN CIVIL RIGHTS  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE WOMEN  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WORKERS  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MARKET DEVELOPERS  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEGRO BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS, INC.  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS  
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U. S. A.  
NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL BEAUTY CULTURISTS' LEAGUE, INC.  
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CONFERENCE FOR INTERRACIAL JUSTICE  
NATIONAL COALITION OF AMERICAN NUNS  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC LAITY  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES—DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PUERTO RICAN VOLUNTEERS, INC.  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS, INC.  
NATIONAL DENTAL ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL FARMERS UNION  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SETTLEMENTS & NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS  
NATIONAL FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND MORTICIANS ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD  
NATIONAL LEGAL AID & DEFENDER ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL NEIGHBORS  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MEXICAN-AMERICAN SERVICES  
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN  
NATIONAL RURAL HOUSING COALITION  
NATIONAL SHARECROPPERS FUND  
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE  
NEWSPAPER GUILD  
OIL, CHEMICAL & ATOMIC WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION  
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.  
PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY, INC.  
PHI DELTA KAPPA SORORITY  
PIONEER WOMEN, AMERICAN AFFAIRS  
POALE ZION  
PRESBYTERIAN INTERRACIAL COUNCIL  
RAZA — ASSOCIATION OF SPANISH SURNAMED AMERICANS  
RETAIL CLERKS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
RETAIL, WHOLESALE & DEPARTMENT STORE UNION  
SCHOLARSHIP, EDUCATION & DEFENSE FUND FOR RACIAL EQUALITY, INC.  
SOUTHERN BEAUTY CONGRESS, INC.  
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE  
TEXTILE WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA  
TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA  
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS FOR BLACK AND WHITE ACTION  
UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKERS OF AMERICA  
UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST — COMMITTEE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE NOW  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST — COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION  
UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE  
UNITED HEBREW TRADES  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - BOARD OF SOCIAL CONCERN  
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — COMMISSION ON RELIGION & RACE  
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — OFFICE OF CHURCH & SOCIETY  
UNITED RUBBER WORKERS  
U.S. CATHOLIC CONFERENCE — DIVISION FOR URBAN AFFAIRS  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
UNITED STATES YOUTH COUNCIL  
UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA  
UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA  
WASHINGTON RESEARCH PROJECT  
WOMEN'S EQUITY ACTION LEAGUE  
WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE & FREEDOM  
WORKERS DEFENSE LEAGUE  
WORKMEN'S CIRCLE  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, NATIONAL BOARD  
YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE USA, NATIONAL BOARD  
YOUTH CITIZENSHIP FUND, INC.  
ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY