

Celebrating 50 Years of Advancing Justice

Dear Jessica,

The WLC has proudly been a member of the Maryland Fight for Fifteen coalition for several years. And we were thrilled when legislation passed in 2019 that would raise the minimum wage for workers to \$15/hour by 2025. But since then, between the pandemic and the subsequent economic downturn and rise in inflation, working families who could least afford it have been hit the hardest.

That is why we have been supporting The Fair Wage Act which will raise the minimum wage by October 1, 2023 and index it to the cost of living. This is essential to provide predictability to businesses and a fair wage to workers. The Fair Wage Act will help struggling workers keep up with the rising cost of living and boost consumer spending.

The Senate version, [SB555](#), has passed the Senate but now sits in the House Economic Matters Committee, along with the cross-file [HB549](#), which was never voted on in Committee.

The coalition is calling on folks who support a fair wage for Maryland workers to reach out to Economic Matters and call for the Fair Wages Act to be voted on - AS IS, with NO AMENDMENTS. Click [HERE](#) to send that message directly to legislators.



Many thanks to [1199 SEIU](#) for helping to lead the charge in this fight and thanks to all of you for all your advocacy this session. With just two weeks left in session we are in the home stretch!

Onward together,



P.S. As always, if you appreciate the work we do, whether in the General Assembly or through our [direct legal services](#) across the State, [give here!](#) And if this email was forwarded to you by a friend, make sure to sign up for our legislative alerts [here!](#)

P.P.S. **Save the Date for the WLC's [Annual Celebration and Awards Ceremony](#) on May 3rd at 6pm at Citron!** Join us in presenting the Rosalyn B. Bell Award to Marla Zide, Esq.; the Dorothy Beatty Memorial Award to Robyn Elliott; and the Access to Justice Award to Natasha M. Dartigue, Esq. and Debbie Feinstein, Esq. For more information or to buy tickets, click [HERE](#).

Have an event you'd like to share with us? Send us an [email!](#)

About The Women's Law Center of Maryland: The vision of the Women's Law

Center of Maryland is a legal system that provides justice and fairness for women. The Women's Law Center's mission is to ensure the physical safety, economic security, and autonomy of women throughout the State. We work towards this goal by providing direct legal representation, information and referral services, and legislative advocacy.

Our efforts to promote justice, fairness, and equality for women are only possible because of friends like you.

[Give Today](#)

The Women's Law Center of Maryland, Inc. is a charitable organization designated as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). A copy of our financial statement is available upon request. Documents and information submitted under the State of Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State of Maryland, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of copying and postage.



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