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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CITY OF CHICAGO RAISES MINIMUM WAGE TO \$10**

*More than 200,000 Workers Across Chicago Receive a Raise Today; This is the First Step in Raising the Minimum Wage to \$13 Per Hour*

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today marked the increase in the local minimum wage to \$10 per hour, the first raise for Chicago workers since 2010. An increase of the tipped minimum wage to \$5.45 is also in effect. In December 2014, City Council passed the Mayor's ordinance to raise the minimum wage for all Chicago workers to \$13 per hour by 2019. The ordinance, which can be found [HERE](#), raises the minimum wage in steps, starting with the increase to \$10 on July 1, 2015.

"Today, more than 200,000 workers in the City of Chicago will receive a much needed raise, an essential step in making sure that hard work pays off for all of our residents," said Mayor Emanuel. "If you work hard in the City of Chicago, you should be able to afford to live here and raise your children here."

The minimum wage increases to \$10.50 in 2016, \$11 in 2017, \$12 in 2018, and to a final minimum wage of \$13 by 2019. Over five years, it will increase the earnings for approximately 410,000 Chicago workers, inject \$860 million into the local economy, and lift 70,000 workers out of poverty.

To ensure that workers know about their rights in the workplace, the City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) has made available on their [website](#) the promulgated regulations and other informational materials, including a Notice to Employers and Employees, which business owners are required to display at their business. Informational materials will be available to business owners and workers in English, Spanish, Polish, Mandarin Chinese and Korean.

BACP will hold a workshop for business owners to learn more about the increase in the city's minimum wage on Wednesday, July 8 from 3:00PM to 4:30PM at City Hall, 121 North

LaSalle Street, Room 805. The United States Department of Labor will also be on hand to answer questions regarding the federal minimum wage and overtime.

Throughout his career, Mayor Emanuel has fought for working families to ensure that everyone has a fair shot at the middle class, helping to pass the last two federal minimum wage increases. As chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee during the 2006 elections, then-Congressman Emanuel made a federal minimum wage increase part of the Democrats' "100-hour Plan" of legislation to be enacted within the first 100 hours of a Democratic Congress. As Democratic Caucus Chairman in the 110th Congress, Mayor Emanuel worked with Speaker Nancy Pelosi to pass the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 out of the House within the first week of the new Democratic majority. This bill increased the minimum wage by 40 percent, from \$5.15 to \$7.25 per hour, the first increase in more than a decade.

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