



Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

**PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT SUBMITTAL RECEIPT**

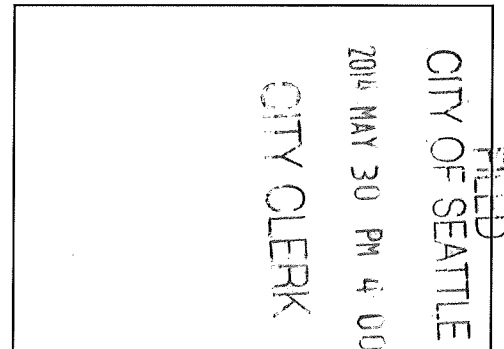
Charter Amendment No. 24

On May 30, 2014 at 4:06 PM a.m./p.m., I filed one paper and one electronic copy of a proposed Charter Amendment with the Seattle City Clerk.

Signed Craig Keller  
CRAIG KELLER  
Print Name

**CITY CLERK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT**

Date/Time Stamp:



Monica M. Simmons  
Received by (City Clerk)

FILED  
CITY OF SEATTLE

2014 MAY 30 PM 3 57

CITY CLERK

## Save Our Choice

PO Box 16716, Seattle, WA 98116  
info@SaveOurChoice.us

May 30, 2014

**City of Seattle Clerk:**

Dear Madame Clerk:

Please find herewith:

1. Seattle "Freedom Wage" Charter Amendment petition (paper two-sided)
2. Seattle "Freedom Wage" Charter Amendment petition (PDF file on disc)
3. Seattle "Freedom Wage" Charter Amendment (Word file on disc)

Grateful to the city's founders for having enshrined the citizen as the highest authority in lawmaking, I submit this "Freedom Wage" charter amendment for the City Attorney's ballot title composition.

Yours truly,



Craig Keller  
"Freedom Wage" Charter Amendment sponsor  
co-founder/volunteer Save Our Choice  
contact phone (206) 935-4625

info@SaveOurChoice.us

# Charter Amendment Petition TO PROTECT the People of Seattle from Harmful Wage Regulations

To the City Council of The City of Seattle:

We, the undersigned registered voters of The City of Seattle, State of Washington, propose and ask for the amendment to the City of Seattle Charter known as Charter Amendment No. \_\_\_ entitled:

[established ballot title of the measure]

a full, true and correct copy of which is included herein, and we petition the Council to present said proposed Charter Amendment to the qualified electors of the City of Seattle for approval or rejection at the next general municipal election occurring in accordance with Article XX, Section 2 of the City Charter; and each of us for himself or herself says:

I am a registered voter of The City of Seattle, State of Washington. My residence address is correctly stated. I have personally signed this petition.

	Citizen's Signature	Print Name	Seattle Street Address & Zip Code	Date Signed
1.	X			__ / __ / 2014
			<small>eMail address (optional, to stay informed)</small>	<small>phone (optional)</small>
2.	X			__ / __ / 2014
			<small>eMail address (optional, to stay informed)</small>	<small>phone (optional)</small>
3.	X			__ / __ / 2014
			<small>eMail address (optional, to stay informed)</small>	<small>phone (optional)</small>
4.	X			__ / __ / 2014
			<small>eMail address (optional, to stay informed)</small>	<small>phone (optional)</small>

RECEIVED  
 CITY OF SEATTLE  
 CITY CLERK  
 MAY 30 PM 4:01  
 2014

**SIGN & MAIL Immediately to: [www.SaveOurChoice.us](http://www.SaveOurChoice.us), P.O. Box 16716, Seattle, WA 98116. Your petition must be received by Sept. 30th 2014**  
**\* PLEASE DUPLICATE THIS PETITION (ONE SHEET, DOUBLE-SIDED) FOR ADDITIONAL SIGNATURE LINES\***

**A Charter Amendment prohibiting City wage regulation.**

The People of the City of Seattle, exercising their power to amend the City Charter by popular vote under Article XX Section 2 of the City Charter, enact the following amendment to the Charter of the City of Seattle.

Section 1. A new Article XXIV entitled "Freedom of Association and Contract," is added to the Charter of the City of Seattle as follows:

**Sec. 1. Findings and Resolution:**

**Whereas the minimum wage paid employees inside Seattle is already controlled by a state law enacted by voters in 1998. That wage is adjusted for inflation every January and now rests at \$9.32/hour;**

**Whereas Washington State's \$9.32/hour is the highest state minimum wage in the United States;**

**Whereas it is the right of every American worker and job creator to freely negotiate and agree upon a mutually beneficial wage; and**

**Whereas City of Seattle interference in wage agreements would harm small employers, charities, non-profit organizations, and eliminate many employment opportunities for those most in need; now, therefore, be it**

**Resolved that city regulation of wage is unnecessary and would damage our city.**

**Sec. 2. Wage Regulation Prohibited.**

The City of Seattle possesses no authority to regulate, nor shall it regulate, a minimum or a maximum employee wage. The City of Seattle shall not regulate employee wages.

**Sec. 3. Wage Regulations Repealed.**

All wage regulation ordinances are repealed.

**Sec. 4. Definitions.**

A. "Agency" shall mean the Seattle Office for Finance and Administrative Services.

B. "Employee" shall mean any individual employed by an

employer, and shall include traditional employees, temporary workers, and part-time employees.

C. "Employer" means any person who has one or more employees, or the employer's designee or any person acting in the interest of such employer. For purposes of this act, "employer" does not include any of the following:

1. The United States government;
2. The State of Washington, including any office, department, agency, authority, institution, association, society or other body of the state, including the legislature and the judiciary;
3. Any county or local government other than the City of Seattle.

**Sec. 5. Notice and Posting.**

A. The City of Seattle shall give notice that it possesses no authority to regulate wage level.

B. The Agency shall create and make available to employers a poster and a model notice, hereinafter referred to as the "Notice," which contains the notice:

"The City of Seattle possesses no authority to regulate, nor shall it regulate, a minimum or maximum employee wage. The City of Seattle shall not regulate employee wages."

The poster shall be printed in English, Vietnamese, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish and any other language that the Agency determines are needed to notify employees and employers of their protection from wage regulation under this Charter. The model Notice will be printed in English. The model Notice will declare "Amended to the Charter of the City of Seattle by Citizens in Seattle, [year]." The Notice will be printed on paper of the same size and font as the City of Seattle Business License and will be mailed along with every business license. The Notice will be made available for download from the Agency website.

C. Employers may display the Agency's poster in a conspicuous and accessible place in each establishment where employers and employees labor together for mutual benefit.

D. Employers may also include the Notice in employee handbooks or other written guidance to employees concerning employee benefits, if such written materials exist, or by distributing a copy of the Notice to each new employee upon hire. In either case, distribution may be accomplished electronically.

E. An employer who does not post the Notice or an employee who does not read the Notice will be in violation of absolutely nothing.

**Sec. 6. Construction Clause.**

The provisions of this Article are to be liberally construed to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this Article.

**Sec. 7. Severability.**

If any provision of this Article is declared illegal, invalid or inoperative, in whole or in part and/or in any particular circumstance, by the final decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, then all portions and applications of this Article not declared illegal, invalid or inoperative, shall remain in full force or effect to the maximum extent permissible under law.

**REQUIRED WARNING:** Every person who signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, or who knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, or signs a petition seeking an election when he or she is not a legal voter, or signs a petition when he or she is otherwise not qualified to sign, or who makes herein any false statement, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. (RCW 35.21.005).

SMC 2.16.010 Unlawful acts designated. A. It is unlawful for any person:

1. To sign or decline to sign any petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment, in exchange for any consideration or gratuity or promise thereof; or
2. To give or offer any consideration or gratuity to anyone to induce him or her to sign or not to sign a petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment; or
3. To interfere with or attempt to interfere with the right of any voter to sign or not to sign a petition for City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment by threat, intimidation or any other corrupt means or practice; or
4. To sign a petition for a City initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment with any other than his or her true name, or to knowingly sign more than one (1) petition for the same initiative, referendum, or Charter amendment measure, or to sign any such petition knowing that he or she is not a registered voter of the City.

B. The provision of the ordinance codified in this chapter shall be printed as a warning on every petition for a City ordinance initiative or referendum or City Charter amendment.

SMC 2.16.020 Violation -- Penalty.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall upon conviction thereof be punishable by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) or by imprisonment in the City Jail for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Fill signature lines immediately. (Signatures must be received at our P.O. Box by September 30th)
- Make 2-sided copies of this petition for more signatures.
- Mail petition with any contribution (check, no cash) to:

**www.SaveOurChoice.us**  
**P.O. Box 16716, Seattle, WA 98116**

Donate to Help us cover the costs of bringing this petition to you.

FILED  
CITY OF SEATTLE  
2014 JUN -6 PM 2:35  
CITY CLERK

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk  
FROM: John Schochet, Assistant City Attorney  
SUBJECT: Ballot title for Charter Amendment 24  
DATE: June 6, 2014

*Via e-mail and hand-delivered*

In response to your May 30, 2014 email regarding proposed Charter Amendment 24, this office has established the following ballot title:

**THE CITY OF SEATTLE  
CHARTER AMENDMENT NUMBER 24**

The City of Seattle Proposed Charter Amendment Number 24 concerns city authority to regulate wages.

If enacted, the measure would amend the Seattle City Charter to eliminate any city authority to regulate wages, repeal all wage regulation ordinances, and require the city to create a model notice stating that the city has no authority to regulate wages.

Should this measure be enacted into law?

Yes

No

Please file this title with King County Elections. If you have any questions, please contact me at 684-8224.