

April 13, 2006

MINIMUM WAGE FOR ALBUQUERQUE

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The New Mexico Human Rights Coalition supports an immediate minimum wage hike for employees in Albuquerque.

Prices have risen sharply over the many years that the minimum wage has been at \$5.25 per hour. Gasoline is currently is at \$2.80 and apparently will increase to \$3.00 before the end of the year. In many instances a day's pay at \$6.75 an hour is more than half of a day's pay at \$6.75 an hour. Should the gas rise to \$3.00 and other related prices rise, a tank of gas and other prices could eat up a day's wages - an exceptionally large price for many, many Albuquerque workers.

While the Coalition believes that a reported \$6.75 an hour increase in January 2007 is too little – too late, it will support the recommendations of other civil rights and labor organizations.