

State Question 832

Raising Oklahoma's Minimum Wage



Issues Update

ON THE BALLOT June 16, 2026

Primary Issue

SQ 832 seeks to raise Oklahoma's minimum wage and remove critical exemptions, including overtime and youth worker exemptions for agricultural operations.

Background

SQ 832 seeks to raise Oklahoma's minimum wage in four phases beginning in 2027. Hiding under the promise of a higher minimum wage, however, is the removal of overtime and youth worker exemptions for agricultural operations.

The measure would raise Oklahoma's minimum wage from the current federal minimum of \$7.25 per hour according to the following schedule:

2027 — \$12 per hour

2028 — \$13.50 per hour

2029 — \$15 per hour

From 2030 onward, the minimum wage in Oklahoma would be **tied to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' CPI-W price index**, aligning the state's minimum wage with federal inflation data, taking control of future minimum wage increases out of the hands of Oklahomans.

Voters will decide the fate of State Question 832 during Oklahoma's primary election June 16, 2026.

Talking Points

- » If SQ 832 passes, **Oklahoma family farms would lose long-standing protections** that exempt them from paying overtime wages and exempt them from paying minimum wage
- » OKFB supports fair wages, but **this measure would increase farm labor costs significantly** during important times of the year when farmers and their work crews are in the field for 12 to 16 hours a day, or more, when a crop has to be harvested or when livestock have to be monitored
- » For farmers and ranchers, having employees who can work long hours when the season or job demands is crucial to **keep Oklahoma agriculture productive** when timing matters most
- » SQ 832 would also mean that **high school and college students would be entitled to the increased minimum wage and overtime pay**
- » Extreme wage increases will **threaten the sustainability of family farms and ranches** at a time when agricultural input costs are already skyrocketing
- » Consumers will bear the brunt of the increased minimum wage in the form of **higher prices at the grocery store**, fast-food restaurants and more
- » SQ 832 would tie the minimum wage to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' CPI-W price index, which does not take into account the **economy and cost of living in rural states like Oklahoma**
- » **Oklahomans could stand to lose their jobs** as businesses facing rising wage costs could move to cut positions, automate tasks or restructure their business operations in an effort to stay viable
- » OKFB believes **the real solution is working with the state legislature to address Oklahoma's minimum wage** to ensure it is meeting the needs of Oklahomans without tying the state's minimum wage to a federal price index that does not take into account local and regional price differences or job markets

State Question 832 takes control of future minimum wage increases out of the hands of Oklahomans.

VOTE NO ON JUNE 16