

### Minor Minimum Wage

Most people that have a job, and are under the age of eighteen, get paid significantly less than adults doing the same job. In the summer of 2014, the federal minimum wage in michigan was changed to eight dollars and fifteen cents. At the same time the wages changed, there became an exception. The exception is that minors at the ages of sixteen through seventeen can be paid under minimum wage as low as seven dollars and twenty five cents per hour.

In many minimum wage jobs, adults and minors work side by side putting in the same amount of work, doing the exact same job, but the minor gets paid less. Most of these minimum wage jobs require labor, hard work all year round.

Some people think that minor minimum wage is ok because the adult has more skill than the minor, and that the adult has seniority over them. This is not always the case. I personally have trained three adults that all work with me. I have more skill, more seniority, and I am more of an asset to the corporation I work for. But, those three people still earn more than I do.

When companies hire minors, they know that the probability of the new employee keeping and maintaining the job is very low. So, why bother paying them more than they have to? Companies also hire minors for cheap labor. Like I previously stated, minimum wage jobs usually do require labor. If the company paid all of their employees at or above minimum wage, they would lose money, resulting in people losing their jobs, and in return the company loses assets. These are all valid reasons to keep minor minimum wage, but the fact still stands that

equal work isn't matching equal pay.

Even though the probability of minors keeping and maintaining their job long enough for a company to benefit from them is unlikely, they are still working just as hard as adults and doing the same job. Minor minimum wage is unnecessary, and can be eliminated without negative results. It is a known fact that the goal of any company is to make larger profits. Companies might actually do better if they paid normal minimum wage to minors simply because they would be getting paid more. Dr. Nelson, a clinical psychologist, best selling author and business trial consultant says, "When employees feel that the company takes their interest to heart, then the employees will take company interests to heart"

In conclusion, minors should receive the same minimum wage as adults. Minors work at or even above the level of adults with the same job, but get paid less. Even though a minor might not keep a job as long as an adult, they still deserve to be paid equally. The exception of the minimum wage increase for minors should be eliminated.