

News

Groups Push Pa. Lawmakers to Increase Statewide Min. Wage

(01/24/06)

by KYW's Mark
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Five busloads of Philadelphians left center city Tuesday morning for a trip to Harrisburg, where they were planning stage a rally seeking legislative action on a proposal to raise the statewide minimum wage.

John Dodd of the Philadelphia Unemployment Project, the organizer of the Philadelphia contingent, says the push has been on to get what he called a "long overdue" hike in the minimum wage:



"Today it's really important that we continue the pressure. We've been nine years with no increase, and we hope shortly to have a vote in the senate for the first time in nine years. And hopefully that will pass legislation to raise the minimum wage to \$7.15."

The state Senate leader has promised he'll let a bill come to the floor for a vote. Dodd says he's confident he'll get support in the House as well, and already has the blessing of Gov. Ed Rendell.