



Automotive Service Councils of California

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ASCCA Joins California Consumers Against Higher Prices to Block Statewide Job-killing Initiatives

SACRAMENTO – The Automotive Services Council of California (ASCCA) today announced that they have joined *California Consumers Against Higher Prices* in opposing a statewide ballot initiative to dramatically increase the minimum wage.

“For decades, ASCCA and its board of directors and legislative advocate, Jack Molodanof, have worked tirelessly to protect California’s independently-owned auto shops from regulations that negatively impact their business, employees, and customers,” said ASCCA Executive Director Gloria Peterson. “Now, by partnering with a diverse coalition of like-minded organizations across the state, our voice will only grow stronger.”

Comprised of 30 chambers of commerce, small business associations, and professional organizations, *California Consumers Against Higher Prices* was formed to fight the SEIU-UHW’s “Fair Wage Act of 2016.” The ballot initiative would raise the minimum wage by \$1 per year until 2021 when it reaches \$15 per hour.

While popular with the public, an analysis by the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) found that a \$15 minimum wage will actually diminish employment opportunities for those at the bottom of the skills ladder and slow employment growth, doing nothing to help the millions of Californians still looking for work. There would be an additional impact to the Automotive Service industry that would due to wage order 9. Wage order 9 requires employers to pay double minimum wage when tools or equipment are not supplied by the employer and are necessary to the performance of a job.

Even the Legislative Analysts Office, California’s official nonpartisan fiscal and policy advisor, found that the initiative would result in “an increase in state and local government spending totaling billions of dollars per year.” This will inevitably lead to higher taxes, cuts to vital services, and fewer public sector jobs.

“Our organization is committed to increasing job opportunities in this state, but raising the minimum wage is not the answer. Auto shop owners are already struggling to afford the skyrocketing costs of workers' compensation, energy use, and the Affordable Care Act. This initiative would only make it harder to employ more people, not easier,” said Peterson.

Founded in 1940, the Automotive Service Councils of California is the largest independent automotive repair organization in California. Its members represent all areas of the automotive repair industry, including mechanical, auto body, suppliers and educators.

"To elevate and Unite Automotive Professionals, and give them voice. "