

## **Thesis, Signpost, Body, Wrap-up: FOLLOW THIS STRUCTURE**

### **Intro:**

-Unemployment rate of 4.8% according to Dept. of Labor

-Anything under 5% is considered low

Thesis: As that government has an obligation to ensure that unemployment stays low and that jobs stay plentiful, we must be opposed to an increase in minimum wage

1. Raising minimum wage will place an extra financial burden on labor costs for small companies
2. Raising minimum wage is not the solution to providing a higher standard of living

### **Body:**

1. Raising minimum wage will place an extra financial burden on labor costs for small companies –

-Will increase unemployment (Department of Economics, Harvard University)

-Will potentially increase prices, cost-of-living, harm consumer confidence in the economy (United States Congressional Budget Office)

Warrant and impact can be developed off of these ideas

2. Raising minimum wage is not the solution to providing a higher standard of living  
-Higher wages will provide a higher financial burden hence prices will go up for consumers (Fortune 500)

-If higher wages lead to higher prices, any true economic gain with higher wages will be subdued by higher prices (Federal Reserve)

-Work/study and subsidized educational programs can be used instead of increasing the minimum wage (The White House, Office of Domestic Policy)

### **Conclusion:**

Raising the federal minimum wage will not ensure that we solve the problem of providing a living wage. But it will increase unemployment and consumer prices. We cannot be thought of as the generation to bring back unemployment and hurt consumer prices. Please do not vote for a rise in minimum wage.