



State Elimination of Subminimum Wage Advocacy Email Template

These template emails are intended for advocates to use in communication with their elected officials at the state level. If you need contact information for your state officials or have any questions about these templates, please contact the NDSS team at policy@ndss.org.

Subject: Please support (bill number), Elimination of Subminimum Wage

Body:

As a resident of (City, State), I am urging you to support (bill number), which would prohibit employers from paying individuals with disabilities subminimum wage and promote opportunities for competitive integrated employment.

[Include here an introduction of yourself and more information connecting you to the Down syndrome community/why this bill is important to you].

There is currently a federal law in place that allows employers to pay employees with disabilities subminimum wage. Because of this federal law, individuals with disabilities are placed in sheltered workshops, working for as little as \$3.50 an hour. There is a demonstrated need for states to take action and ensure the rights of people with disabilities including Down syndrome. State-level legislation regarding the elimination of subminimum wage has been passed in over a dozen other states.

Please work to ensure that people with Down syndrome and other disabilities are paid at least minimum wage and receiving opportunities for competitive integrated employment. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the National Down Syndrome Society at policy@ndss.org.