

“Six for '06” Priority: Increasing the Minimum Wage

After 10 years of stonewalling by the Republican congressional leadership, on July 24 minimum wage workers received their first wage increase in 10 years.

This minimum wage boost for the lowest paid 13 million Americans was first passed by the 110th Congress on January 10 with a bipartisan vote of 315-116. President Bush signed the measure into law on May 25 as part of an emergency supplemental appropriations bill. This is a critical first step toward making America more equitable and toward keeping America’s economy number one in the world. The Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 increases the minimum wage from the current \$5.15 per hour to \$7.25 per hour over the next two years.