



ANGELO J. MORINELLO  
Assemblyman 145<sup>th</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY  
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ALBANY

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May 23, 2018

Roberta Reardon, Commissioner  
NYS Department of Labor  
Building 12, W. Averell Harriman State Campus,  
Albany New York, 12240

Dear Commissioner Reardon:

Due to recent proposals involving wages for tipped workers, I am extremely concerned that if enacted, these ideas will harm New York residents, employees and businesses across the state. I've spoken with constituents throughout my district about this complex issue and many are troubled by impacts that could be caused by this proposal.

If we essentially shift the way we require businesses to schedule and raise the minimum wage for tipped workers, it will lead to uncertainty and loss by the small businesses that help our state thrive. The additional regulations will cause further harm to New York's struggling business climate and force them to move elsewhere.

Raising the base wage for servers may sound like a positive change for employees, but it would likely eliminate tips and create financial uncertainty. These changes will only incentivize tipped workers to continue leaving the state in search of better opportunities.

Rather than targeting the wages of tipped workers, we should work to improve our state economy by cutting taxes and eliminating business regulations. If we truly want our New York state economy to thrive and compete with the rest of the nation, we need a fundamental change in our approach to the economy. Families throughout our state are struggling and the best way to help them is to give them and their employers the freedom to succeed.

Sincerely,

Angelo J. Morinello  
Member of the Assembly