



RESOLUTION NO. 8055

A RESOLUTION of the City of Everett completing the City's ministerial obligation to transmit City of Everett Initiatives 24-01, 24-02 and 24-03 to the County to be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot.

WHEREAS,

1. The City of Everett City Charter Article XI, Sec. (2)(d) provides that when the City receives an initiative petition for a proposed ordinance that is signed by between 5% and 15% of the electorate from the last general election, the City shall cause it to be submitted to the voters.
2. Based on the last general election, the 5% threshold required 928 valid signatures to be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot.
3. On July 23, 2024, Marista Jorve, City Clerk for the City of Everett certified that the initiative submitted by Everett Deserves a Raise (attached as Exhibit 3), City of Everett Initiative 24-01, had 934 valid signatures.
4. On July 23, 2024, Marista Jorve, City Clerk for the City of Everett certified that the initiative submitted by Raise the Wage Responsibly (attached as Exhibit 4), City of Everett Initiative 24-02, had 1307 valid signatures.
5. On August 5, 2024, Marista Jorve, City Clerk for the City of Everett certified that the initiative submitted by Standing for the Snoho (attached as Exhibit 6), City of Everett Initiative 24-03, had 935 valid signatures.
6. To cause the three initiatives to be submitted to the voters, RCW 29A.04.330(2) mandates that the City enact a resolution to transmit the three initiatives to the County. If the City fails to enact the resolution transmitting the two initiatives, the City could be forced to do so by court order. By enacting this resolution, the City is merely performing a ministerial task and is not addressing the substance of the three initiatives.
7. Pursuant to RCW 29A.36.071 and Snohomish County regulations, the City Attorney is required to draft the ballot title, a concise summary, and explanatory statement for any initiatives submitted to the City. The ballot title, concise summary, and explanatory statement for Initiative 24-01 is attached as Exhibit 1. The ballot title, concise summary, and explanatory statement for Initiative 24-02 is attached as Exhibit 2. The ballot title, concise summary, and explanatory statement for Initiative 24-03 is attached as Exhibit 5.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND EVERETT CITY COUNCIL THAT:

1. Initiative 24-01, along with the corresponding ballot title, concise summary, and explanatory statement shall be transmitted to the County so the initiative can be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot.
2. Initiative 24-02, along with the corresponding ballot title, concise summary, and explanatory statement shall be transmitted to the County so the initiative can be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot.
3. Initiative 24-03, along with the corresponding ballot title, concise summary, and explanatory statement shall be transmitted to the County so the initiative can be placed on the November 5, 2024 ballot.



Councilmember introducing Resolution

Passed and approved this 6th day of August, 2024.



Council President

Proposed Ballot Title:

City of Everett, Washington

Initiative 24-01

City of Everett Initiative No. 24-01 establishing an increased minimum wage and other labor standards.

This ordinance would (1) create a minimum wage within the City limits of \$20.24 not including any tips and other compensation for large employers and phased in over 2 years for smaller covered employers, increasing annually at the rate of inflation, (2) require employers to offer additional hours to existing part-time employees before hiring new employees, (3) prohibit retaliation against employees seeking to enforce these requirements, and (4) establish remedies and penalties for violations.

Should this ordinance be enacted into law?

☐ Yes, for the Ordinance?

☐ No, against the Ordinance?

*Prepared by Ramsey Ramerman
Deputy City Attorney*

*Word counts:
Subject – 9 words (max 10)
Concise Description – 74 words (max 75)*

Proposed Explanatory Statement:

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Initiative 24-01

An Initiative establishing an increased minimum wage and other labor standards.

This ordinance would create a minimum wage within the Everett city limits of \$20.24. Any tips and other compensation would not count towards the minimum wage. The minimum wage would increase on January 1, 2026, and January 1 of each subsequent year based on the rate of inflation.

For large employers, the minimum wage will go into effect July 1, 2025. For smaller covered employers, it will be phased in over two years, going fully into effect on July 1, 2027.

A business is considered a large business if it has over 500 employees. Businesses with separate and distinct physical locations and separate ownership may be treated as a single employer if they are sufficiently interrelated.

A business is a small, covered business if it has 15 or more employees or an annual gross revenue of \$2 million or more.

The ordinance would require employers to offer additional hours to existing part-time employees before hiring new employees or using subcontractors.

The ordinance would prohibit employers from retaliating against employees seeking to enforce these requirements.

Finally, the ordinance would allow aggrieved employees and the City to enforce the ordinance and seek penalties for any violations of the ordinance.

[Word count: 197 wds / max 200 (SnoCo)]

*Prepared by Ramsey Ramerman
Deputy City Attorney for the City of Everett*

Proposed Ballot Title:

City of Everett, Washington

Initiative 24-02

City of Everett Initiative No. 24-02 establishing an increased minimum wage and other labor standards.

This ordinance would (1) create a minimum wage within the City limits of \$20.24 including any tips and other compensation for large employers and phased in over 2 years for smaller covered employers, increasing annually at the rate of inflation, (2) require employers to offer additional hours to existing part-time employees before hiring new employees, (3) prohibit retaliation against employees seeking to enforce these requirements, and (4) establish remedies and penalties for violations.

Should this ordinance be enacted into law?

☐ Yes, for the Ordinance?

☐ No, against the Ordinance?

*Prepared by Ramsey Ramerman
Deputy City Attorney*

*Word counts:
Subject – 9 words (max 10)
Concise Description – 73 words (max 75)*

Proposed Explanatory Statement:

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Initiative 24-02

An Initiative establishing an increased minimum wage and other labor standards.

This ordinance would create a minimum wage within the Everett city limits of \$20.24. Any tips and other compensation would count towards the minimum wage. The minimum wage would increase on January 1, 2026, and January 1 of each subsequent year based on the rate of inflation.

For large employers, the minimum wage will go into effect July 1, 2025. For smaller covered employers, it would be phased in over two years, going fully into effect on July 1, 2027.

A business is considered a large business if it has over 500 employees. Businesses with separate and distinct physical locations and separate ownership shall not be treated as a single employer even if they are interrelated.

A business is a small, covered business if it has 15 or more employees or an annual gross revenue of \$2 million or more.

The ordinance would require employers to offer additional hours to existing part-time employees before hiring new employees or using subcontractors.

The ordinance would prohibit employers from retaliating against employees seeking to enforce these requirements.

Finally, the ordinance would allow aggrieved employees and the City to enforce the ordinance and seek penalties for any violations of the ordinance.

[Word count: 197 wds / max 200 (SnoCo)]

*Prepared by Ramsey Ramerman
Deputy City Attorney for the City of Everett*

Proposed Ballot Title:

City of Everett, Washington

Initiative 24-03

City of Everett Initiative No. 24-03 recognizing legally enforceable rights for the Snohomish River Watershed.

This ordinance would grant the Snohomish River Watershed legal rights that could be enforced by any resident of the City of Everett. Anyone who negatively impacts the Watershed's ability to exist, regenerate or flourish would violate this right and could be liable for damages, which would be paid to the City to use exclusively to restore the Watershed and repair any damages. Violations would not need to be proven to a scientific certainty.

Should this ordinance be enacted into law?

☐ Yes, for the Ordinance?

☐ No, against the Ordinance?

*Prepared by Ramsey Ramerman
Deputy City Attorney*

*Word counts:
Subject – 9 words (max 10)
Concise Description – 73 words (max 75)*

Proposed Explanatory Statement:

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Initiative 24-03

An Initiative recognizing legally enforceable rights for the Snohomish River Watershed.

This ordinance would grant the Snohomish River Watershed the legal right to exist, regenerate and flourish, which includes the right to naturally flow and recharge, the right to maintain the water quality necessary for native plants and wildlife, and the right to provide clean water. It also includes the right to be free from activities or projects that interfere with those other rights.

It would be unlawful for anyone to interfere with the Watershed's enumerated rights. Anyone with standing in the City of Everett could bring a court action to enforce and protect these rights. A person found by a court to have violated the rights of the Watershed could be ordered to pay damages in the amount necessary to fully restore the Watershed to its natural state before the violation and attorney fees. A person bringing the suit would not have to prove the cause of the damage to a scientific certainty.

Any damages award in a lawsuit brought to protect the rights of the Watershed would be paid to the City of Everett. The City would be required to use those funds exclusively for the full and complete restoration of the Watershed as affected by the violation.

[Word count: 199 wds / max 200 (SnoCo)]

*Prepared by Ramsey Ramerman
Deputy City Attorney for the City of Everett*