



Living Wage NYC

Our City. Our Lives. Our Future.

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Contact: Michael Yellin. 917-434-6130

Mayor Launches "Desperate" Attempt to Derail Living Wage *Fight for Economic Justice Ramps Up*

NEW YORK, NY -- On Wednesday, in a typically Bloomberg attempt to slow the growing support for passage of the legislation, his administration released its already discredited, biased million-dollar living wage study. To no one's surprise, the study's findings support Bloomberg's position that rich developers should not have to pay a living wage when receiving millions of dollars in public subsidies. This release comes after the coalition announced revisions to strengthen the bill on Monday. The revised bill will bring additional support for its passage and set-up an eventual showdown with the Bloomberg administration and its failed economic development policies.

Living wage warrior Rev. Dr. Peter Goodwin Heltzel, Director of the Micah Institute at New York Theological Seminary, and a leader of the Living Wage NYC Faith Caucus, added this: "It is immoral that our billionaire mayor used a million dollars of taxpayer money -- that's money from the pockets of poor, working New Yorkers -- to pay for a study that tells them that they don't deserve a living wage!"

Linda Archer, a member of the growing coalition who works at a low-wage job with no benefits, put it this way, "Rather than doing what he can to help New Yorkers, the mayor continues to spend his time, and our money, to help his rich friends. It's not right. And it must stop."

As Bloomberg cements his legacy of aiding the rich at the expense of everyone else, Living Wage NYC is taking it to the streets and joining the Occupy Wall Street demonstrators in the shared fight for economic justice.

"The Bloomberg Administration's economic development policies have failed 99 percent of New Yorkers," said Dr. Ray Rivera, member of the Living Wage NYC Faith Caucus and President of the Latino Pastoral Action Center. "What we are fighting for is just and fair. Now is the time to pass the strengthened Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act!"

The Living Wage NYC coalition will continue to ramp up its grassroots campaign in preparation for a large mobilization Nov. 21st at The Riverside Church and passage of the Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act.

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