Fig. 1

US and NY Minimum Wage in 2015 Dollars*
1938 Through Proposed Rest-of-State NY 2021

- Inflation-Adjusted NY
- Inflation-Adjusted US

1938: Original minimum wage equivalent to $4.20 in 2015 dollars.
1970: NYS minimum hits all-time high of $11.35 in 2015 dollars.
2016: Scheduled $9 wage floor is NY’s highest in 37 years.
2021: Inflation-discounted proposed wage of nearly $13 an hour will be NY’s highest ever.

* Inflation adjustments based on annual average CPI-U, assuming zero inflation in 2015 and 2.5% annual inflation from 2016 through 2021

Fig. 2

Minimum Wages in Developed Countries, 2014
US Dollars Adjusted for Purchasing Parity (PPP) and Exchange Rates

- PPP Value
- NY 2015
- NY Rest of State 2021*

Source: OECD

* In 2015 dollars, assuming 2.5% inflation through 2021
Fig. 3

Median Wage vs. Enacted and Proposed Minimum Wage