Skarlatos said he does not support minimum wage laws at all. His plan would gut the take home pay for essential workers, including childcare providers, school bus drivers, hospital support staff, and grocery workers. If Skarlatos had his way, big corporations would decide how little a worker should be paid, with no paycheck protections for hard-working Oregon families.

**Skarlatos Did Not Think There Should Be A Minimum Wage.** “[35:01] HOST: Also, what's your philosophy on the minimum wage? Skarlatos: I don't think there should be a minimum wage. Host: Either on the state or federal level? Skarlatos: I don't think it should be mandated. I think someone's going to create a minimum wage. If the state doesn't have one, it's always going to fall to the federal government's minimum wage. So I don't think we need to increase it any more than the federal government has. I don't think the federal government really should be dictating what the minimum wage should be either.” [KNND, 7/29/20]

**Houston Chronicle: “Jobs That Provide Basic Care To Children, People With Illnesses Or Disabilities And The Elderly Often Start At Minimum Wage Or Not Much More.”** “Jobs that provide basic care to children, people with illnesses or disabilities and the elderly often start at minimum wage or not much more. Below are the median hourly wages, according to the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics, for several care-giving jobs: Childcare workers: $10.72  Home health and personal care aides: $11.12 Nursing assistants and orderlies: $13.23 ‘Median hourly wage’ means that half of all workers in this industry made more than the stated amount and that half made less.” [Chron.com from the Houston Chronicle, 2/6/19]

**Quartz: “Most Grocery Store Employees Make Minimum Or Near-Minimum Wage.”** “To deal with the crisis, several companies (including Costco, Target, Albertsons, and Whole Foods) have added a hazard pay bonus—or a ‘Hero Bonus,’ as grocery store giant Kroger puts it—of $2 per hour for grocery workers, to be paid against the hours worked during the epidemic. But some grocery workers have found the bonus ‘insulting,’ and policy experts found it to be insufficient to bring most workers up to a living wage, considering most grocery store employees make minimum or near-minimum wage.” [Quartz, 4/25/20]