

Getting traction ...

IN THE OTHER WASHINGTON: Our state's Congresswoman **Cathy McMorris Rodgers** continued her work to expand employment opportunities for people with disabilities, joining Bobby Scott of Virginia to sponsor the bipartisan HR 873 (Transformation to Competitive Employment Act), which would end subminimum wages at the federal level. Bob Casey of Pennsylvania sponsored the Senate version.

Phasing out subminimum wages made it onto both **major party platforms** in 2016, with the Democrats calling for improving access to meaningful and gainful employment for people with disabilities. The Republicans more specifically supported ending subminimum wages for people with disabilities.

IN OTHER STATES ... Legislation was introduced by a Republican in **Kentucky** to phase out sheltered workshops, and by Democrats in **Oregon** and **Hawaii** to end subminimum wages for people with disabilities.

New Hampshire, Maryland and **Alaska** all passed legislation to abolish subminimum wages for workers with disabilities. **Vermont** defunded sheltered workshops, prompting their closure, and does not allow subminimum wages in integrated settings.

Reno, NV, followed Seattle's lead and abolished subminimum wages at the city level.

Rhode Island and **Oregon** have settlement decrees with the Department of Justice to achieve competitive integrated employment for workers with disabilities who had been segregated in sheltered workshops that pay subminimum wages.

It's time for Washington state. HB 1706 and SB 5753 eliminate subminimum wages for people with disabilities. 1 out of 7 Americans have a disability. #RealPayRealWork



SUBMINIMUM WAGES DON'T PAY. They cost taxpayers more and don't align with civil rights legislation. Our existing law predates the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).