Today, union-supported activist groups are staging walk-outs at restaurants in seven major cities, demanding a $15 hourly wage.

This would have negative consequences for employees. Restaurants keep just a few cents in profit from each sales dollar, and won’t be able to afford current staffing levels when faced with a $15 minimum wage.

Instead, they will be forced to replace employees with less-costly, automated alternatives like touch-screen ordering and payment devices.