

From: Michael Reich
To: [Jacob Vigdor](#)
Cc: [Sylvia Allegretto](#); [David Neumark](#); [Arindrajit Dube](#); [Ben Zipperer](#); [Till von Wachter](#); [Alan B. Krueger](#); [jeffclemons@ucsd.edu](#); [Giuliano, Laura](#); [Marianne Bitler](#); [rvb1@cornell.edu](#); [Justin Wolfers](#); [William L. Wascher](#); [Dale Belman](#); [Wolfson, Paul J.](#); [Lester, Thomas William](#); [Manning, A](#); [David Card](#); [Jonathan Meer](#); [tmac@stanford.edu](#); [Ekaterina Roshchina](#); [Robert D. Plotnick](#); [Mark C. Long](#); [Hilary Wething](#); [Emma van Inwegen](#)
Subject: Re: Upcoming NBER working paper on Seattle minimum wage
Date: Monday, June 12, 2017 7:18:07 AM

Hi Jake,

Thank you for this heads up and generous offer. I would like to receive asap an advance copy of the NBER wp, as the Mayor's Office has already asked that I provide comments on your draft version of April 2017. Of course I'd prefer to comment on your most current version.

The April version contain some rather sweeping conclusions. But it seems to me that your preferred estimates are driven by unusually small estimated wage effects, well outside the usual range found in the literature.

There are a number of possible explanation for such small estimated wage effects. I hope the NBER version delves further into these than does the earlier version. Indeed, the April version refers to a companion paper on wage spillovers. Please send me that paper as well.

Your Seattle minimum wage papers have the great strength of drawing from rich administrative microdata data. It would be very helpful to interpreting your results if a de-identified version of your data were available to other researchers. Is such a plan in the works?

Best, Michael

On Sun, Jun 11, 2017 at 9:45 PM, Jacob Vigdor <jvigdor@uw.edu> wrote:

Dear colleagues:

On behalf of my UW colleagues investigating the effects of the Seattle Minimum Wage, I'm reaching out to inform you that we expect to soon release an NBER working paper updating and expanding analysis of the labor market impacts of the 2014 Minimum Wage Ordinance.

Since initially reporting findings for calendar year 2015, we have engaged in the traditional academic pattern of refining and checking methods in response to continuous feedback received in seminars, conferences, and by direct correspondence. We have circulated multiple interim drafts of our work, each bearing a "do not cite" request and a disclaimer that results are preliminary and subject to revision. Each draft improves over the last thanks to feedback from many of you – not to mention from elected officials and staff of the City of Seattle who initially commissioned our work. We appreciate your efforts to communicate directly with us and improve the quality of our work.

Our decision to release our next draft as an NBER working paper is not motivated by any sense that our work is done; only that we are prepared to drop the "do not cite" proviso and

continue discussion and debate about methods, results, and interpretation in a broader forum.

We would be happy to provide you an advance copy of the new draft once it has been submitted for inclusion in the NBER working paper series. We would appreciate your feedback on this draft. If you indicate interest by return email, we will ensure that you are added to the distribution list.

Sincerely,

Jake Vigdor

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