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Has the Movement to Raise the Minimum Wage Reached Its Limit?

Politicians who had supported an increase have reversed course

BALTIMORE—Cities and counties from Portland, Maine, to Los Angeles have successfully passed local minimum-wage increases, but recent resistance in seemingly friendly territory suggests a momentum shift.

The newly elected Baltimore mayor last month vetoed an increase of the local wage floor to \$15 an hour by 2022, despite favoring the policy as a candidate. Earlier this year, the top elected official in Montgomery County, Md., outside Washington blocked a similar measure despite the county previously being at the forefront of local minimum-wage increases.

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