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Former presidential candidate and Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney said last week that he supports an increase in the minimum wage, in stark contrast to many in his party.

“I, for instance, part company with many of the conservatives in my party on the issue of minimum wage. I think we ought to raise it,” Romney said in an interview with MSNBC's Morning Joe. “Our party is all about more jobs and better pay, and I think communicating that is important to us.”

The measure is widely opposed by Republicans in Congress who have repeatedly shot down hikes by Democrats, but Romney is the third prominent ex-GOP pol to endorse it in recent weeks. Former Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty and former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum both said the GOP should back a wage hike.

During the 2012 presidential campaign, Romney said the minimum wage should rise with inflation in January, but walked back the statement later in the year.

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