
HOUSE BILL 2896

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Gombosky, Conway, Cody, Sullivan, O'Brien, Butler, Wolfe, Murray, Kenney, Costa, Wood, Constantine, Ogden, Appelwick, Cooper, Keiser, Romero, Chopp, Fisher, Doumit, Tokuda, Anderson, Dickerson, Lantz and Cole

Read first time 01/21/98. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing the state minimum wage rate to six
2 dollars and fifty cents an hour by the year 2000 with inflation
3 increases thereafter without addressing deductions from or credits
4 against employees' wages as a means for employers to comply with
5 minimum wage laws; and amending RCW 49.46.020.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.46.020 and 1993 c 309 s 1 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, every employer
10 shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the age of
11 eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than four dollars and ninety
12 cents per hour.

13 (2)(a) Beginning January 1, 1999, the minimum wage rate under
14 subsection (1) of this section shall be five dollars and seventy-five
15 cents per hour.

16 (b) Beginning January 1, 2000, the minimum wage rate under
17 subsection (1) of this section shall be six dollars and fifty cents per
18 hour.

1 (c) Beginning on January 1, 2001, the minimum wage rate under
2 subsection (1) of this section shall be determined under this
3 subsection (2)(c). On September 30, 2000, and on each September 30th
4 thereafter, the director shall adjust the minimum wage rate to maintain
5 employees' purchasing power by increasing the minimum wage to respond
6 to inflation. The director shall calculate the minimum wage rate to
7 the nearest cent using the implicit price deflator for the previous
8 calendar year as calculated by the United States department of
9 commerce, or a successor agency, and adopted by the economic and
10 revenue forecast council. The minimum wage rate calculated under this
11 subsection (2)(c) takes effect each year on January 1st following
12 calculation.

13 (3) The director shall by regulation establish the minimum wage for
14 employees under the age of eighteen years.

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