
HOUSE BILL 2802

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Chandler, Clements and Van Luven

Read first time 01/29/2002. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 AN ACT Relating to enhancing the competitiveness of Washington's
2 agricultural and food processing industries; amending RCW 49.46.020;
3 and adding a new section to chapter 49.46 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.46.020 and 1999 c 1 s 1 are each amended to read as
6 follows:

7 ~~(1) ((Until January 1, 1999, every employer shall pay to each of~~
8 ~~his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at~~
9 ~~a rate of not less than four dollars and ninety cents per hour.~~

10 ~~(2) Beginning January 1, 1999, and until January 1, 2000, every~~
11 ~~employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the~~
12 ~~age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than five dollars and~~
13 ~~seventy cents per hour.~~

14 ~~(3) Beginning January 1, 2000, and until January 1, 2001, every~~
15 ~~employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the~~
16 ~~age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than six dollars and~~
17 ~~fifty cents per hour.~~

18 ~~(4)(a) Beginning on January 1, 2001, and each following)) (a)~~
19 Except as set forth under (c) of this subsection, on January 1st as set

1 forth under (b) of this subsection, every employer shall pay to each of
2 his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at
3 a rate of not less than the amount established under (b) of this
4 subsection.

5 (b) On (~~September 30, 2000, and on each following~~) September
6 30th, the department of labor and industries shall calculate an
7 adjusted minimum wage rate to maintain employee purchasing power by
8 increasing the current year's minimum wage rate by the rate of
9 inflation. The adjusted minimum wage rate shall be calculated to the
10 nearest cent using the consumer price index for urban wage earners and
11 clerical workers, CPI-W, or a successor index, for the twelve months
12 prior to each September 1st as calculated by the United States
13 department of labor. Each adjusted minimum wage rate calculated under
14 this subsection (~~(+4)~~) (1)(b) takes effect on the following January
15 1st.

16 (~~(+5)~~) (c) Every employer shall pay to each of his or her
17 employees who has reached the age of eighteen years and who performs
18 services in agriculture or processing as defined in section 2 of this
19 act wages at a rate of not less than six dollars and ninety cents per
20 hour.

21 (2) The director shall by regulation establish the minimum wage for
22 employees under the age of eighteen years.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 49.46 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, "services in
26 agriculture or processing" means employment:

27 (1) On a farm, in the employ of any person, in connection with the
28 cultivation of the soil, or in connection with raising or harvesting
29 any agricultural or horticultural commodity, including raising,
30 shearing, feeding, caring for, training, and management of livestock,
31 bees, poultry, and furbearing animals and wildlife, or in the employ of
32 the owner or tenant or other operator of a farm in connection with the
33 operation, management, conservation, improvement, or maintenance of
34 such farm and its tools and equipment;

35 (2) In packing, packaging, grading, storing or delivering to
36 storage, or to market or to a carrier for transportation to market, any
37 agricultural or horticultural commodity;

1 (3) Commercial canning, commercial freezing, or any other
2 commercial processing, or with respect to services performed in
3 connection with the cultivation, raising, harvesting, and processing of
4 oysters or in connection with any agricultural or horticultural
5 commodity after its delivery to a terminal market for distribution for
6 consumption;

7 (4) In distributing or selling any pesticide as defined by RCW
8 15.58.030 or any agricultural chemical; or

9 (5) In office management or other support services directly related
10 to employment described in subsections (1) through (4) of this section.

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