

2921

Sponsor(s): Representatives Chandler, Ahern, Schindler, McMorris, Holmquist and Dunn

Brief Description: Freezing the state minimum wage while studying wage increase impacts.

HB 2921 - DIGEST

Requires the employment security department to study the impact of the state minimum wage increase under section 1, chapter 1, Laws of 1999 (Initiative Measure No. 688, approved November 3, 1998). The department must contract with the University of Washington and cooperate in supplying data to the university for purposes of the study.

Provides that, to the extent possible, the study will show the comparative impact on employees and businesses in eastern and western Washington. The study will also attempt to verify the information provided by survey respondents. A report of findings will be presented to the governor and the legislature by December 1, 2004.

Declares that, beginning January 1, 2003, and until January 1, 2006, every employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than six dollars and ninety cents per hour.