
HOUSE BILL 1724

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representative Klippert

Read first time 01/27/17. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards.

1 AN ACT Relating to the minimum wage; amending RCW 49.46.020;
2 creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the minimum
5 wage increase enacted in Initiative Measure No. 1433, approved
6 November 8, 2016, was a drastic increase. The legislature further
7 finds that the costs associated with this increase will likely result
8 in job losses and business closures. These effects are detrimental to
9 all Washingtonians, particularly for the lowest wage workers, persons
10 with developmental disabilities, youth employees, and other
11 populations that traditionally have more difficulty securing
12 employment. To negate these effects, the legislature will provide
13 workers with a wage increase from the nine dollars and fifty-three
14 cents per hour that would have been in effect absent Initiative
15 Measure No. 1433 to ten dollars per hour, rather than the eleven
16 dollars per hour imposed by Initiative Measure No. 1433. Further, to
17 address the particularly harmful unemployment effects of a minimum
18 wage increase on youth workers, the legislature will provide for a
19 reduced minimum wage rate for workers ages fourteen through seventeen
20 years.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 49.46.020 and 2017 c 2 s 3 (Initiative Measure No.
2 1433) are each amended to read as follows:

3 (1)~~((a))~~ Beginning ~~((January 1, 2017))~~ on the effective date of
4 this section, and until January 1, 2018, every employer shall pay to
5 each of his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen
6 years wages at a rate of not less than ~~((eleven))~~ ten dollars per
7 hour.

8 ~~((b) Beginning January 1, 2018, and until January 1, 2019, every~~
9 ~~employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached~~
10 ~~the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than eleven~~
11 ~~dollars and fifty cents per hour.~~

12 ~~(c) Beginning January 1, 2019, and until January 1, 2020, every~~
13 ~~employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached~~
14 ~~the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than twelve~~
15 ~~dollars per hour.~~

16 ~~(d) Beginning January 1, 2020, and until January 1, 2021, every~~
17 ~~employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached~~
18 ~~the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than thirteen~~
19 ~~dollars and fifty cents per hour.)~~

20 (2)(a) Beginning on January 1, ~~((2021))~~ 2019, and each following
21 January 1st as set forth under (b) of this subsection, every employer
22 shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the age of
23 eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than the amount
24 established under (b) of this subsection.

25 (b) On September 30, ~~((2020))~~ 2018, and on each following
26 September 30th, the department of labor and industries shall
27 calculate an adjusted minimum wage rate to maintain employee
28 purchasing power by increasing the current year's minimum wage rate
29 by the rate of inflation. The adjusted minimum wage rate shall be
30 calculated to the nearest cent using the consumer price index for
31 urban wage earners and clerical workers, CPI-W, or a successor index,
32 for the twelve months prior to each September 1st as calculated by
33 the United States department of labor. Each adjusted minimum wage
34 rate calculated under this subsection (2)(b) takes effect on the
35 following January 1st.

36 (3) An employer must pay to its employees: (a) All tips and
37 gratuities; and (b) all service charges as defined under RCW
38 49.46.160 except those that, pursuant to RCW 49.46.160, are itemized
39 as not being payable to the employee or employees servicing the
40 customer. Tips and service charges paid to an employee are in

1 addition to, and may not count towards, the employee's hourly minimum
2 wage.

3 (4) Beginning January 1, 2018, every employer must provide to
4 each of its employees paid sick leave as provided in RCW 49.46.200
5 and 49.46.210.

6 (5) The director shall by regulation establish the minimum wage
7 for employees under the age of eighteen years. The rate may be less
8 than, but may not be greater than, the federal minimum wage rate.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
11 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
12 effect immediately.

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