

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 173

H. P. 148

House of Representatives, January 14, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Wilfong of Stow.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Increase the Minimum Wage to \$2.50 an Hour.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

26 MRSA, § 664, first ¶, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 752, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

By reason of the declaration of policy set forth in section 661 and in the protection of the industry or business and in the enhancement of public interest, health, safety and welfare, it is declared unlawful for any employer to employ any employee, except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, at the rate of less than \$2.50 per hour; nor work more than 40 hours in one week, unless $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the regular hourly rate is paid for all work done over 40 hours in any one week; and whenever the highest federal minimum wage is increased in excess of \$2.50 per hour, the minimum wage established under this section shall be increased to the same amount, effective on the same date as the increase in the highest federal minimum wage, but in no case shall the minimum wage exceed \$3 per hour. The Commissioner of Manpower Affairs shall, at the beginning of each fiscal year, adjust the rate of \$2.50 per hour to reflect the increase or decrease of the cost of living as determined by the Cost of Living Index of the United States Department of Labor. The overtime provision of this section shall not apply to seamen, the canning, processing, preserving, freezing, drying, marketing, storing, packing for shipment or distribution of herring as sardines, of perishable foods, of agricultural produce, and meat and fish products, nor to the canning of perishable goods, nor to hotels, motels, restaurants and other eating establishments.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act will increase the minimum wage to \$2.50 an hour and will provide for an annual cost of living adjustment to the minimum wage.