

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1138

6  
7 H.P. 884

House of Representatives, March 9, 1983

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

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Connolly of Portland.

Cosponsors: Representative McHenry of Madawaska and Senator Hayes  
of Penobscot.

11  
12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE  
16

17 AN ACT to Increase the Minimum Wage.  
18

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

21 26 MRSA §664, first ¶, as amended by PL 1979, c.  
22 516, §3, is further amended to read:

23 By reason of the declaration of policy set forth  
24 in section 661 and in the protection of the industry  
25 or business and in the enhancement of public inter-  
26 est, health, safety and welfare, it is declared  
27 unlawful for any employer to employ any employee,  
28 except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, at  
29 the rate of less than ~~\$2.90~~ \$3.35 per hour; or to re-  
30 quire any employee to work more than 40 hours in one  
31 week, unless 1 1/2 times the regular hourly rate is  
32 paid for all work done over 40 hours in any one week;  
33 and whenever the highest federal minimum wage is  
34 increased in excess of ~~\$2.90~~ \$3.35 per hour, the min-

1 imum wage established under this section shall be  
2 increased to the same amount, effective on the same  
3 date as the increase in the highest federal minimum  
4 wage, but in no case ~~shall~~ may the minimum wage  
5 exceed \$4 per hour, except that the minimum hourly  
6 wage rate shall be \$3.50 as of October 1, 1983, \$3.70  
7 as of January 1, 1984, and \$3.90 as of January 1,  
8 1985. The overtime provision of this section shall  
9 not apply to seamen, the canning, processing, pre-  
10 serving, freezing, drying, marketing, storing, pack-  
11 ing for shipment or distribution of herring as  
12 sardines, of perishable foods, of agricultural pro-  
13 duce and meat and fish products, nor to the canning  
14 of perishable goods, nor to hotels, motels, restau-  
15 rants and other eating establishments, nor to public  
16 employees.

17 STATEMENT OF FACT

18 The purpose of this bill is to increase the  
19 state's minimum wage from the current level of \$3.35  
20 per hour to \$3.90 per hour. This increase will be  
21 accomplished in 3 steps, over a 3-year period. On  
22 October 1, 1983, the minimum wage increases to \$3.50;  
23 January 1, 1984, it increases to \$3.70; and January  
24 1, 1985, it increases to \$3.90. This bill does not  
25 alter current law regarding the tying of the state's  
26 minimum wage to the federal minimum wage. If the  
27 federal minimum wage increases at a faster rate than  
28 that proposed by this bill, the state's rate will  
29 match the federal rate.

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