

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: 6/16/95

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 108,
L.D. 143, Bill, "An Act to Increase the Minimum Wage in Maine"

Amend the amendment in section 1 in that part designated "~~\$664.~~" in subsection 1 by striking out all of the 2nd sentence (lines 37 to 41 in amendment) and inserting in its place the following:

'Effective January 1, 1996, the minimum wage is \$4.50 per hour. Effective January 1, 1997, the minimum wage is \$4.75 per hour. Effective January 1, 1998, the minimum wage is \$5.00 per hour. If the highest federal minimum wage is increased in excess of the minimum wage established under this section, the minimum wage must be increased to the same amount, effective on the same date as the increase in the federal minimum wage, but in no case may the minimum wage exceed \$5.15 per hour.'

Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1995-96

LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Labor Standards

All Other

\$11,259

R. O. S.

2 Provides funds to cover the
costs of revising the minimum
4 wage poster.

6 **Sec. 3. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide
election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted
8 to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election
held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November
10 following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this
State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities,
12 towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law
for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or
rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

14 "Do you favor increasing the minimum wage to \$4.50 per hour,
16 effective January 1, 1996; \$4.75 per hour, effective January
1, 1997; and \$5.00 per hour, effective January 1, 1998?"

18 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall
20 vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice
by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
22 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received,
sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation
24 meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same
manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor
26 shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of
the legal votes are cast in favor of the Act, the Governor shall
28 proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act takes effect 30
days after the date of the proclamation.

30 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each
32 city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this
Act necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.'

34
36 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
statement of fact the following:

38
40 **FISCAL NOTE**

42 **1995-96**

44 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

46 General Fund **\$11,259**

48

A. & S.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 108, L.D.
143

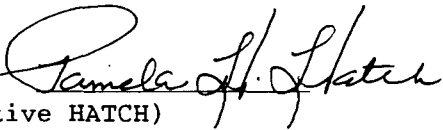
2 This amendment adds a referendum requirement. The estimated
3 cost of sending this question out to referendum will vary
4 according to the total number of referenda enacted during the
5 First Regular Session of the 117th Legislature. The estimated
6 cost to the Secretary of State if one to 6 referenda are enacted
7 is \$95,000. Each additional referendum costs an additional
8 \$7,000.

9
10 If approved by the voters, this amendment would amend the
11 state minimum wage and place additional responsibilities on the
12 Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards in the area of
13 required distribution of posters. A General Fund appropriation
14 of \$11,259 in fiscal year 1995-96 would be required for
15 publishing costs and other operating expenses related to revising
16 the minimum wage poster.

17
18 The increases in the minimum wage may result in increased
19 costs to municipalities if there are school and other public
20 employees who are compensated at less than the higher minimum
21 wage levels. Increased school expenses may increase funding
22 requests for the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program.'

24 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

25
26 This amendment increases the minimum wage, subject to
27 approval at referendum, to \$4.50 per hour, effective January 1,
28 1996; \$4.75 per hour, effective January 1, 1997; and \$5.00 per
29 hour, effective January 1, 1998.

30
31
32 SPONSORED BY: 
33 (Representative HATCH)

34
35 TOWN: Skowhegan

36
37
38

HOUSE AMENDMENT