

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 633

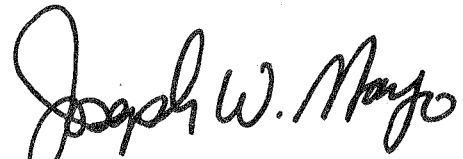
H.P. 462

House of Representatives, January 30, 1997

**An Act to Provide a Cost-of-living Adjustment to Minimum Wage Earners.**

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Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SHIAH of Bowdoinham.  
Cosponsored by Senator CATHCART of Penobscot and  
Representatives: BOLDUC of Auburn, BULL of Freeport, CLARK of Millinocket, HATCH  
of Skowhegan, SAMSON of Jay, STANLEY of Medway, Senators: RAND of Cumberland,  
TREAT of Kennebec.

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

4 Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §663, sub-§14 is enacted to read:

6 14. Consumer Price Index. "Consumer Price Index" means the  
8 Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers:  
10 United States City Average, All items, as compiled by the United  
12 States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics or, if  
that index is revised or superseded, "Consumer Price Index" means  
the index represented by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as  
reflecting most accurately changes in the purchasing power of the  
dollar by consumers.

14 Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 305,  
16 §1, is amended to read:

18 1. Minimum wage. The minimum hourly wage is \$4.25 per  
20 hour. If the highest federal minimum wage is increased in excess  
22 of \$4.25 per hour, the minimum wage must be increased to the same  
24 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. The minimum hourly established by this section must be  
increased every April 1st by the percent increase, if any, in the  
Consumer Price Index for the preceding calendar year.

26  
28 SUMMARY

30 This bill requires that the State's minimum hourly wage be  
32 increased each year by the amount of the percent increase in the  
Consumer Price Index.