

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 403

H.P. 299

House of Representatives, February 9, 2009

An Act To Increase the Minimum Wage

Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.
Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and
Representatives: BLODGETT of Augusta, GILBERT of Jay, Speaker PINGREE of North
Haven, TRINWARD of Waterville, Senators: BARTLETT of Cumberland, GERZOFKY of
Cumberland, President MITCHELL of Kennebec, SULLIVAN of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 640, §4, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Minimum wage.** The minimum hourly wage is \$6.50 per hour. Starting October
5 1, 2006, the minimum hourly wage is \$6.75 per hour. Starting October 1, 2007, the
6 minimum hourly wage is \$7.00 per hour. Starting October 1, 2008, the minimum hourly
7 wage is \$7.25 per hour. Starting October 1, 2009, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.50 per
8 hour. Starting October 1, 2010, the minimum hourly wage is \$8.20 per hour. Starting
9 October 1, 2011, the minimum hourly wage is \$8.90 per hour. On October 31, 2011 and
10 on October 31st each year thereafter, the Department of Labor shall calculate an adjusted
11 minimum wage rate to maintain employee purchasing power. The adjusted minimum
12 wage must be calculated to the nearest cent using the Consumer Price Index for Urban
13 Wage Earners and Clerical Workers or a successor index for the 12 months prior to each
14 September 1st. Each adjusted minimum wage rate so calculated takes effect January 1st
15 of the following year. If the highest federal minimum wage is increased in excess of the
16 minimum wage in effect under this section, the minimum wage under this section is
17 increased to the same amount, effective on the same date as the increase in the federal
18 minimum wage, but in no case may the minimum wage exceed the minimum wage
19 otherwise in effect under this section by more than \$1 per hour.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill increases the minimum wage to \$8.20 per hour in 2010 and to \$8.90 in 2011.
22 Each year after that, the minimum wage is adjusted based on changes in prices, so that the
23 minimum hourly wage rate maintains employee purchasing power. The price adjustment
24 is based on the change in the Consumer Price Index.