

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2273

Date: 4/3/24

(Filing No. H-922)

Majority
LABOR AND HOUSING

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1462, L.D. 2273, "An Act to Establish a State Minimum Hourly Wage for Agricultural Workers"

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c. 2-B in §652 in the 2nd indented paragraph in the first line (page 1, line 25 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "September 1, 2024" and inserting the following: 'January 1, 2025'

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c. 2-B in §653 in the first indented paragraph in the last 3 lines (page 2, lines 12 to 14 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "All information received is considered confidential and may not be divulged to any other person or agency, except as may be necessary for the enforcement of this subchapter."

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c. 2-B in §654 by striking out all of the 2nd indented paragraph (page 2, lines 22 and 23 in L.D.).

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, provides that, beginning January 1, 2025, rather than September 1, 2024 as in the bill, individuals employed in agriculture may not be paid at a rate less than the state minimum hourly wage. The amendment removes the provision of the bill giving the Department of Labor exclusive authority to bring an action for unpaid wages on behalf of an agricultural employee. The amendment also makes a technical correction.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2273

LR 3129(02)

An Act to Establish a State Minimum Hourly Wage for Agricultural Workers

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-922)

Committee: Labor and Housing

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Minor revenue increase - General Fund

Minor revenue increase – Other Special Revenue Funds

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

This bill may increase the number of civil suits filed in the court system. The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases does not require additional funding at this time. The collection of additional fines and filing fees will increase General Fund or other dedicated revenue by minor amounts.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Labor associated with enforcement of the minimum wage requirement for agricultural employees can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.