

2020 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 279

BY SENATOR PETERSON

EMPLOYMENT. Constitutional amendment to establish and provide for the gradual increase in the state minimum hourly wage. (2/3 - CA13s1(A))

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to add Article XII, Section 17 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the  
3 establishment of a state minimum hourly wage; to provide relative to employers with  
4 fifty full-time employees or more; to provide for a minimum hourly wage; to provide  
5 relative to employees eighteen years of age and older; and to specify an election for  
6 submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

7 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members  
8 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for  
9 their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article XII,  
10 Section 17 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

11 **§17. State Minimum Hourly Wage**

12 **Section 17. Every employer with fifty or more full-time employees shall**  
13 **pay each employee eighteen years or older wages which are at least equal to the**  
14 **state's minimum hourly wage as follows:**

15 **(1) Beginning August 1, 2021, the state minimum hourly wage shall be**  
16 **eleven dollars per hour or the federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.**

17 **(2) Beginning August 1, 2023, the state minimum hourly wage shall be**

1           thirteen dollars per hour, or the federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.

2                   (3) Beginning August 1, 2025, the state minimum hourly wage shall be  
3           fifteen dollars per hour, or the federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.

4           Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted  
5           to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on  
6           November 3, 2020.

7           Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election  
8           there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted  
9           to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as  
10          follows:

11                   Do you support an amendment to establish a state minimum hourly wage  
12                   which would require every employer with fifty or more employees to pay  
13                   each employee eighteen years or older at least the higher of the federal  
14                   minimum hourly wage or eleven dollars beginning August 1, 2021, thirteen  
15                   dollars beginning August 1, 2023, and fifteen dollars beginning August 1,  
16                   2025?

17                   (Adds Art. XII, Sec. 17)

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

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DIGEST

SB 279 Original

2020 Regular Session

Peterson

Proposed constitutional amendment establishes a state minimum hourly wage and provides for gradual increases.

Proposed constitutional amendment requires that, effective Aug. 1, 2021, every employer with 50 or more full-time employees pay to each employee 18 years of age and older at least the state minimum hourly wage of \$11 per hour or the federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that beginning Aug. 1, 2023, the state minimum hourly wage shall be \$13 per hour or the federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that beginning Aug. 1, 2025, the state minimum hourly wage shall be \$15 per hour or the federal minimum wage, whichever is higher.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

(Adds Const. Art. XII, Sec. 17)