

2019 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 60

BY SENATOR CARTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

EMPLOYMENT. Constitutional amendment to provide, with certain exceptions, for a state minimum wage effective August 1, 2020. (2/3 - CA13s1(A))

1 AN ACT

2 Proposing to add Article XII, Section 17 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the

3 establishment of a state minimum wage; to provide relative to employers with fifty

4 full-time employees or more; to provide for a minimum hourly wage; to provide

5 relative to employees eighteen years of age and older; to provide that the legislature

6 shall provide for certain definitions and exemptions; to provide relative to certain

7 student employees; to provide relative to certain tip credits available to employers;

8 and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide

9 a ballot proposition.

10 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members

11 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for

12 their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article XII,

13 Section 17 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

14 **§17. State Minimum Hourly Wage**

15 **Section 17. Every employer with fifty or more full-time employees shall**

16 **pay each employee eighteen years or older wages which are equal to the state's**

17 **minimum wage. The hourly rate of the state minimum wage will never be a rate**

1           lower than the federal minimum wage.

2                   Beginning August 1, 2020, the state minimum wage shall be not less than  
3           nine dollars per hour or the federal minimum wage, whichever is higher. Each  
4           subsequent year, the state minimum wage shall be adjusted for inflation;  
5           therefore, beginning August 1, 2021, the amount of the state minimum wage  
6           shall be the amount which equals the state minimum wage which was in effect  
7           on August 1, 2020 but which amount is adjusted for inflation or the federal  
8           minimum wage, whichever is higher.

9                   The legislature shall provide for definitions and for certain exemptions  
10           from the minimum wage requirement to include but not be limited to bona fide  
11           student employees and allowing an employer to take a tip credit toward its  
12           minimum wage obligation for tipped employees equal to the difference between  
13           the required cash wage and the required minimum wage.

14           Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted  
15           to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on October 12,  
16           2019.

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

21                   Do you support an amendment to establish a state minimum wage which  
22                   would require every employer with fifty or more employees to pay each  
23                   employee eighteen years or older a minimum hourly wage of nine dollars  
24                   beginning August 1, 2020, adjusted annually for inflation, or the federal  
25                   minimum wage, whichever is higher?

26                   (Adds Article XII, Sec. 17)

