

2013 -- H 5079

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Lima, Hull, Guthrie, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: January 15, 2013

Referred To: House Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 28-12-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-12 entitled "Minimum
2 Wages" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **28-12-3. Minimum wages.** -- (a) Every employer shall pay to each of his or her
4 employees: commencing July 1, 1999, at least the minimum wage of five dollars and sixty five
5 cents (\$5.65) per hour. Commencing September 1, 2000, the minimum wage is six dollars and
6 fifteen cents (\$6.15) per hour.

7 (b) Commencing January 1, 2004, the minimum wage is six dollars and seventy-five
8 cents (\$6.75) per hour.

9 (c) Commencing March 1, 2006, the minimum wage is seven dollars and ten cents
10 (\$7.10) per hour.

11 (d) Commencing January 1, 2007, the minimum wage is seven dollars and forty cents
12 (\$7.40) per hour.

13 (e) Commencing January 1, 2013, the minimum wage is seven dollars and seventy-five
14 cents (\$7.75) per hour.

15 (f) Commencing January 1, 2014, the minimum wage is eight dollars and twenty-five
16 cent (\$8.25) per hour.

17 (g) Commencing January 1, 2015, and on each January 1st thereafter, the department of
18 labor and training shall calculate an adjusted minimum wage rate to maintain employee
19 purchasing power by increasing the current year's minimum wage rate by the rate of inflation.

1 The adjusted minimum wage rate shall be calculated to the nearest cent using the consumer price
2 index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, CPI-W, or a successor index, for the previous
3 year as calculated for the northeast region by the United States department of labor. Each adjusted
4 minimum wage rate so calculated shall take effect on July 1st of the proceeding year.

5 (h) The Rhode Island minimum wage rate automatically increases to fifteen cents (\$.15)
6 above the rate set in the Fair Labor Standards Act if the federal minimum wage equals or
7 becomes higher than the state minimum.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would raise the minimum wage commencing January 1, 2014, to eight dollars
2 and twenty-five cents (\$8.25) per hour, and would require annual adjustments by the department
3 of labor and training commencing January 1, 2015.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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