
SENATE BILL 5839

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Baxter, Stevens, Becker, Swecker, Hewitt, Schoesler, Honeyford, King, and Parlette

Read first time 02/21/11. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection.

1 AN ACT Relating to adjusting the minimum wage rate based on changes
2 in consumer prices; and amending RCW 49.46.020.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.46.020 and 1999 c 1 s 1 are each amended to read as
5 follows:

6 (1) Until January 1, 1999, every employer shall pay to each of his
7 or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at a
8 rate of not less than four dollars and ninety cents per hour.

9 (2) Beginning January 1, 1999, and until January 1, 2000, every
10 employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the
11 age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than five dollars and
12 seventy cents per hour.

13 (3) Beginning January 1, 2000, and until January 1, 2001, every
14 employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the
15 age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than six dollars and
16 fifty cents per hour.

17 (4)(a) Beginning on January 1, 2001, and each following January 1st
18 as set forth under (b) of this subsection, every employer shall pay to

1 each of his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years
2 wages at a rate of not less than the amount established under (b) of
3 this subsection.

4 (b) On September 30, 2000, and on each following September 30th,
5 the department of labor and industries shall calculate an adjusted
6 minimum wage rate to maintain employee purchasing power by increasing
7 the current year's minimum wage rate by the rate of inflation. The
8 adjusted minimum wage rate shall be calculated to the nearest cent
9 using the consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical
10 workers, CPI-W, or a successor index, (~~for the twelve months prior~~
11 ~~to~~) each September 1st as calculated by the United States department
12 of labor. Beginning September 30, 2011, calculations of the adjusted
13 minimum wage rate shall reflect the actual change in consumer prices
14 since September 1, 2000, based on the consumer price index for urban
15 wage earners and clerical workers or a successor index. Each adjusted
16 minimum wage rate calculated under this subsection (4)(b) takes effect
17 on the following January 1st.

18 (5) The director shall by (~~regulation~~) rule establish the minimum
19 wage for employees under the age of eighteen years.

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