

2012 -- S 2374

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LC01352  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES

Introduced By: Senators Lynch, McCaffrey, DiPalma, Lanzi, and Perry

Date Introduced: February 14, 2012

Referred To: Senate 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, and on each January 1<sup>st</sup> thereafter, the department of  
16 labor and training shall calculate an adjusted minimum wage rate to maintain employee  
17 purchasing power by increasing the current year's minimum wage rate by the rate of inflation.  
18 The adjusted minimum wage rate shall be calculated to the nearest cent using the consumer price  
19 index for urban wage earners and clerical workers. CPI-W, or a successor index, for the previous

1 year as calculated for the northeast region by the United States department of labor. Each adjusted  
2 minimum wage rate so calculated shall take effect on July 1<sup>st</sup> of the proceeding year.

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

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES

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1           This act would raise the minimum wage commencing January 1, 2013 to seven dollars  
2   and seventy-five cents (\$7.75) per hour, and would require adjustments by the department of  
3   labor and training commencing January 1, 2014.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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