

2014 -- H 7194

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LC003590
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - MINIMUM WAGES

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Hull, Shekarchi, Slater, and McNamara

Date Introduced: January 23, 2014

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 (\$8.00) per hour.

16 (g) Commencing January 1, 2015, the minimum wage is nine dollars (\$9.00) per hour.

17 (h) Commencing January 1, 2016, the minimum wage is ten dollars (\$10.00) per hour.

18 (i) Commencing January 1, 2017, and on January 1 of each year thereafter, the
19 department of labor and training shall calculate an adjusted minimum wage rate to maintain

1 employee purchasing power by increasing the current year's minimum wage rate by the rate of
2 inflation. The adjusted minimum wage rate shall be calculated to the nearest cent using the
3 consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, CPI-W, or a successor index,
4 for the previous year as calculated for the northeast region by the United States Department of
5 Labor.

6 (j) Under no circumstances shall the state's minimum wage be less than fifteen cents
7 (\$.15) more than the federal minimum wage.

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 gradually increase the minimum hourly wage every year until January 1,
- 2 2017 when it would be adjusted using the consumer price index for the northeast region.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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