

**2026 -- H 7770**

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LC005268

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**S T A T E   O F   R H O D E   I S L A N D**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026**

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**A N   A C T**

**RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES**

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Edwards, Potter, Alzate, Messier, Furtado, Corvese, McNamara, Fellela, and Shanley

Date Introduced: February 12, 2026

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.**

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

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

9            (c) Commencing March 1, 2006, the minimum wage is seven dollars and ten cents (\$7.10)  
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 nine dollars and sixty cents (\$9.60)  
18      per hour.

19           (i) Commencing January 1, 2018, the minimum wage is ten dollars and ten cents (\$10.10)

1 per hour.

2 (j) Commencing January 1, 2019, the minimum wage is ten dollars and fifty cents (\$10.50)  
3 per hour.

4 (k) Commencing October 1, 2020, the minimum wage is eleven dollars and fifty cents  
5 (\$11.50) per hour.

6 (l) Commencing January 1, 2022, the minimum wage is twelve dollars and twenty-five  
7 cents (\$12.25) per hour.

8 (m) Commencing January 1, 2023, the minimum wage is thirteen dollars (\$13.00) per hour.

9 (n) Commencing January 1, 2024, the minimum wage is fourteen dollars (\$14.00) per hour.

10 (o) Commencing January 1, 2025, the minimum wage is fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour.

11 (p) Commencing January 1, 2026, the minimum wage is sixteen dollars (\$16.00) per hour.

12 (q) Commencing January 1, 2027, the minimum wage is seventeen dollars (\$17.00) per  
13 hour.

14 (r) Commencing January 1, 2029, the minimum wage shall be increased by an amount  
15 equal to the total percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-  
16 U) published by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics for the Northeast  
17 Region for the calendar year 2027, but in no event shall the minimum wage decrease to reflect any  
18 decrease in the CPI-U.

19 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 increase the minimum hourly wage commencing January 1, 2029, by an
- 2        amount equal to the total percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers
- 3        (CPI-U) for the Northeast Region for the calendar year 2027.
- 4        This act would take effect upon passage.

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