

2026 -- H 7441

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Edwards, McNamara, Corvese, Kazarian,
Nardone, Furtado, Cortvriend, Read, and Shanley
Date Introduced: January 30, 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, 2028, 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 four (4) previous fiscal years, but in no event to exceed twelve percent (12%).

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- MINIMUM WAGES

- 1 Effective January 1, 2028, this act would increase the hourly minimum wage in accordance
2 with the Consumer Price Index for the Northeast Region for the previous four (4) fiscal years.
3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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