

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Increase the Minimum Wage**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 640, §4, is further amended to read:

**1. Minimum wage.** ~~The minimum hourly wage is \$6.50 per hour. Starting October 1, 2006, the minimum hourly wage is \$6.75 per hour. Starting October 1, 2007, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.00 per hour. Starting October 1, 2008, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.25 per hour. Starting October 1, 2009, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.50 per hour. Starting October 1, 2015, the minimum hourly wage is \$9.00 per hour. Starting October 1, 2016, the minimum hourly wage is \$10.00 per hour. Starting October 1, 2017 and each October 1st thereafter, if there is an increase in the Consumer Price Index as of June 30th of that year from the Consumer Price Index as of June 30th of the preceding year, the minimum hourly wage in effect at that time must be increased by the same percentage as the Consumer Price Index increase. For purposes of this subsection, "Consumer Price Index" means the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, CPI-W, for the Northeast Region, or successor index, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. If the highest federal minimum wage is increased in excess of the minimum wage in effect under this section, the minimum wage under this section is increased to the same amount, effective on the same date as the increase in the federal minimum wage, but in no case may the minimum wage exceed the minimum wage otherwise in effect under this section by more than \$1 per hour.~~

### **SUMMARY**

This bill raises the minimum wage to \$9.00 per hour beginning October 1, 2015 and to \$10.00 per hour beginning October 1, 2016 and provides that, beginning October 1, 2017, the minimum wage must be adjusted for inflation on October 1st of each year.