

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

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act To Amend the Requirement That the
Department of Labor Calculate the Livable Wage'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'**Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1-A**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 363, §1, is amended to read:

§ 1-A. Livable wage defined

As used in this Title, unless the context otherwise indicates, "livable wage" means the statewide average livable wage for a 2-parent household with 2 earners and 2 children as reported by the Department of Labor in the most recent annual/biennial report required pursuant to section ~~1405~~1406.

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §1405, as amended by PL 2009, c. 11, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §1406 is enacted to read:

§ 1406. Calculation of livable wage

By July 1, 2013 and biennially thereafter, the department shall calculate the livable wage and develop a basic needs budget for households in this State based on, at a minimum, a 2-parent household with 2 earners and 2 children representative family size, but only if funding has been appropriated for these purposes.

By December 1, 2013 and biennially thereafter, the department shall report the livable wages calculated and the basic needs budget for households developed pursuant to this section to the Legislature if funds have been appropriated for these purposes.'

SUMMARY

This amendment, as the bill does, repeals the current law that requires the Department of Labor to calculate the livable wage, develop a basic needs budget based on a number of different sizes of families and report its findings to the Legislature.

This amendment requires the department to calculate the livable wage and develop a basic needs budget based on, at a minimum, a representative family size of a 2-parent household with 2 earners and 2 children and report the results to the Legislature, but only if funds are appropriated.