



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 611

H.P. 430

House of Representatives, February 21, 2013

**An Act To Adjust Maine's Minimum Wage Annually Based on
Cost-of-living Changes**

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative HAMANN of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative EVANGELOS of Friendship, Senator PATRICK of Oxford and Representatives: BEAR of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, BERRY of Bowdoinham, CAMPBELL of Newfield, CAREY of Lewiston, Speaker EVES of North Berwick, GILBERT of Jay, Senators: President ALFOND of Cumberland, GERZOFSKY of Cumberland, TUTTLE of York.

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

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

4 **1. Minimum wage.** The minimum hourly wage is ~~\$6.50 per hour. Starting October~~
5 ~~1, 2006, the minimum hourly wage is \$6.75 per hour. Starting October 1, 2007, the~~
6 ~~minimum hourly wage is \$7.00 per hour. Starting October 1, 2008, the minimum hourly~~
7 ~~wage is \$7.25 per hour. Starting October 1, 2009, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.50 per~~
8 ~~hour. Starting October 1, 2013, the minimum hourly wage is \$8.50 per hour. Starting~~
9 ~~October 1, 2014 and each October 1st thereafter, if there is an increase in the Consumer~~
10 ~~Price Index on June 30th of that year from the Consumer Price Index on June 30th of the~~
11 ~~preceding year, the minimum hourly wage in effect at that time must be increased by the~~
12 ~~same percentage as the Consumer Price Index increase. For purposes of this subsection,~~
13 ~~"Consumer Price Index" means the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and~~
14 ~~Clerical Workers, CPI-W, for the Northeast Region, or successor index, as published by~~
15 ~~the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. If the highest federal~~
16 ~~minimum wage is increased in excess of the minimum wage in effect under this section,~~
17 ~~the minimum wage under this section is increased to the same amount, effective on the~~
18 ~~same date as the increase in the federal minimum wage, but in no case may the minimum~~
19 ~~wage exceed the minimum wage otherwise in effect under this section by more than \$1~~
20 ~~per hour.~~

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill raises the minimum wage to \$8.50 per hour beginning October 1, 2013, and
23 it requires the minimum hourly wage to be adjusted for inflation on October 1st of each
24 year, beginning October 1, 2014.