



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 206

S.P. 93

In Senate, January 14, 2025

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**An Act to Protect Maine Businesses by Eliminating the Automatic  
Cost-of-living Adjustment to the Minimum Hourly Wage**

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Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner and  
Senators: LIBBY of Cumberland, STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives:  
FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, LYMAN of Livermore Falls.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4016, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 643, Pt. G, §1, is  
3 amended to read:

4 **2. Minimum hourly wage.** ~~Except as provided in subsection 3, for~~ For the school  
5 year starting after June 30, 2025 and for each subsequent school year, the minimum hourly  
6 wage for educational technicians is equal to 125% of the minimum hourly wage established  
7 in Title 26, section 664, subsection 1 and the minimum hourly wage for other school  
8 support staff is equal to 115% of the minimum hourly wage established in Title 26, section  
9 664, subsection 1.

10 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §4016, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 643, Pt. G, §1, is  
11 repealed.

12 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §15677, sub-§2, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 643, Pt. G,  
13 §3, is amended to read:

14 C. For fiscal year 2025-26 and for each subsequent fiscal year, the commissioner shall  
15 update the previous year's salary matrix to reflect appropriate trends in the Consumer  
16 Price Index or other comparable index ~~and to reflect any increase in the minimum~~  
17 ~~hourly wage of educational technicians and other school support staff in accordance~~  
18 ~~with section 4016, subsection 3.~~

19 **Sec. 4. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§1**, as amended by IB 2015, c. 2, §1, is further  
20 amended to read:

21 **1. Minimum wage.** The minimum hourly wage is ~~\$7.50~~ \$14.65 per hour. ~~Starting~~  
22 ~~January 1, 2017, the minimum hourly wage is \$9.00 per hour; starting January 1, 2018, the~~  
23 ~~minimum hourly wage is \$10.00 per hour; starting January 1, 2019, the minimum hourly~~  
24 ~~wage is \$11.00 per hour; and starting January 1, 2020, the minimum hourly wage is \$12.00~~  
25 ~~per hour. On January 1, 2021 and each January 1st thereafter, the minimum hourly wage~~  
26 ~~then in effect must be increased by the increase, if any, in the cost of living. The increase~~  
27 ~~in the cost of living must be measured by the percentage increase, if any, as of August of~~  
28 ~~the previous year over the level as of August of the year preceding that year in the~~  
29 ~~Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, CPI-W, for the~~  
30 ~~Northeast Region, or its successor index, as published by the United States Department of~~  
31 ~~Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics or its successor agency, with the amount of the minimum~~  
32 ~~wage increase rounded to the nearest multiple of 5¢. If the highest federal minimum wage~~  
33 ~~is increased in excess of the minimum wage in effect under this section, the minimum wage~~  
34 ~~under this section is increased to the same amount, effective on the same date as the~~  
35 ~~increase in the federal minimum wage, and must be increased in accordance with this~~  
36 ~~section thereafter.~~

37 **Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §5217-E, sub-§1, ¶E**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. H, §15,  
38 is amended by amending subparagraph (3) to read:

39 (3) During the taxable year had earned income of at least the state minimum wage,  
40 as set out in Title 26, section 664, subsection 1, ~~as adjusted for cost-of-living~~  
41 ~~increases~~, as determined on January 1st of the taxable year, multiplied by 936  
42 hours. The assessor may adopt rules reducing this amount if a portion of the  
43 taxable year falls within a disaster period. Rules adopted pursuant to this

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subparagraph are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375,  
subchapter 2-A.

**SUMMARY**

This bill sets the minimum hourly wage at \$14.65 and removes the annual cost-of-  
living adjustment. The minimum hourly wage as of January 1, 2025 pursuant to Initiated  
Bill 2015, chapter 2 is \$14.65 per hour due to inflation adjustments. The bill also removes  
cross-references to the annual cost-of-living adjustment.