

Date:

(Filing No. H-)

LABOR

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 539, L.D. 853, “An Act to Replace the Minimum Hourly Wage with a Regionally Based Living Wage”

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 4 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 4. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§1, as amended by IB 2015, c. 2, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Minimum wage. The minimum hourly wage is \$14.65 per hour in the coastal region, northern region and Portland metropolitan region through December 31, 2025. Beginning January 1, 2026, the minimum hourly wage in the coastal region is 80% of the living wage determined by the institute for the State as a whole, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2025. Beginning January 1, 2026, the minimum hourly wage in the northern region is 80% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Bangor metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2025. Beginning January 1, 2026, the minimum hourly wage in the Portland metropolitan region is 80% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Portland-South Portland metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2025. Beginning January 1, 2027, the minimum hourly wage in the coastal region is 85% of the living wage determined by the institute for the State as a whole, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2026. Beginning January 1, 2027, the minimum hourly wage in the northern region is 85% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Bangor metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2026. Beginning January 1, 2027, the minimum hourly wage in the Portland metropolitan region is 85% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Portland-South Portland metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2026. Beginning January 1, 2028, the minimum hourly wage in the coastal region is 90% of the living wage determined by the institute for the State as a whole, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2027. Beginning January 1, 2028, the minimum hourly wage in the northern region is 90% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Bangor metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2027. Beginning January 1, 2028, the minimum hourly wage in the Portland metropolitan region is 90% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Portland-South Portland metropolitan area, for one

adult with no children, as of January 1, 2027. Beginning January 1, 2029, the minimum hourly wage in the coastal region is 95% of the living wage determined by the institute for the State as a whole, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2028. Beginning January 1, 2029, the minimum hourly wage in the northern region is 95% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Bangor metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2028. Beginning January 1, 2029, the minimum hourly wage in the Portland metropolitan region is 95% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Portland-South Portland metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2028. Beginning January 1, 2030, the minimum hourly wage in the coastal region is 100% of the living wage determined by the institute for the State as a whole, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2029. Beginning January 1, 2030, the minimum hourly wage in the northern region is 100% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Bangor metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2029. Beginning January 1, 2030, the minimum hourly wage in the Portland metropolitan region is 100% of the living wage determined by the institute for the Portland-South Portland metropolitan area, for one adult with no children, as of January 1, 2029. On January 1, 2031 and each January 1st thereafter, the minimum hourly wage for the coastal, northern and Portland metropolitan regions is 100% of the living wage determined by the institute for the State as a whole, for one adult with no children, as of January 1st of the prior year.

For the purposes of this subsection, "institute" means the Massachusetts Institute of Technology or a successor organization that publishes living wage data for the State.

Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Departments and Agencies - Statewide 0016

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for the cost of replacing the statewide minimum wage with a gradual implementation of a regional living wage provided by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Living Wage Calculator or its successor beginning January 1, 2026.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$492,603	\$1,405,735
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$492,603	\$1,405,735

HIGHWAY FUND	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$584,927	\$1,850,455
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$584,927	\$1,850,455

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS

	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$492,603	\$1,405,735

1	HIGHWAY FUND	\$584,927	\$1,850,455
2			
3	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$1,077,530	\$3,256,190
4	COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE		
5	Maine Community College System - Board of Trustees 0556		
6	Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for the cost of replacing the statewide minimum wage		
7	with a gradual implementation of a regional living wage provided by the Massachusetts		
8	Institute of Technology, Living Wage Calculator or its successor beginning January 1,		
9	2026.		
10	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
11	All Other	\$887,320	\$1,774,640
12			
13	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$887,320	\$1,774,640
14			
15	COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF		
16	TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE		
17	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
18			
19	GENERAL FUND	\$887,320	\$1,774,640
20			
21	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$887,320	\$1,774,640
22	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
23	Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147		
24	Initiative: Provides funding for the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure		
25	that the labor components of rates for certain services equal at least 125% of the minimum		
26	wage for services under Public Law 2021, chapter 398, Part AAAA.		
27	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
28	All Other	\$5,786,737	\$13,329,692
29			
30	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$5,786,737	\$13,329,692
31			
32	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2025-26	2026-27
33	All Other	\$9,126,425	\$20,569,971
34			
35	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$9,126,425	\$20,569,971
36			
37	FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND	2025-26	2026-27
38	All Other	\$109,515	\$247,636
39			
40	FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL	\$109,515	\$247,636
41	Office of Aging and Disability Services Central Office 0140		

Initiative: Provides funding for the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure rate parity for similar services as those subject to the requirement that the labor components of rates equal at least 125% of the minimum wage for services under Public Law 2021, chapter 398, Part AAAA.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$6,918	\$15,725
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$6,918	\$15,725

Office of MaineCare Services 0129

Initiative: Provides funding for one Public Service Coordinator I position and related All Other Costs to support the implementation and management of the regionally based minimum wage law.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$62,380	\$65,500
All Other	\$3,628	\$3,628
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$66,008	\$69,128

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$62,380	\$65,500
All Other	\$5,159	\$5,232
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$67,539	\$70,732

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS

	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$5,859,663	\$13,414,545
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$9,193,964	\$20,640,703
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND	\$109,515	\$247,636
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$15,163,142	\$34,302,884

LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF

Regulation and Enforcement 0159

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for 2 Labor and Safety Inspector positions and related All Other costs to support the implementation and enforcement of the regionally based minimum wage law.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2.000	2.000
Personal Services	\$150,671	\$207,761
All Other	\$14,005	\$18,674

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$164,676	\$226,435
LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF		
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$164,676	\$226,435
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$164,676	\$226,435
SECTION TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$7,404,262	\$16,821,355
HIGHWAY FUND	\$584,927	\$1,850,455
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$9,193,964	\$20,640,703
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND	\$109,515	\$247,636
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$17,292,668	\$39,560,149

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the minimum wage for the State with a gradual implementation of a regional living wage provided by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Living Wage Calculator, or its successor organization. The gradual implementation will occur over 5 years, beginning January 1, 2026. The amendment divides the State into regions based on counties for the purposes of a regional living wage. The bill provides that, through December 31, 2025, the minimum hourly wage is \$14.65, which is the minimum hourly wage as of January 1, 2025. Beginning on January 1, 2026, the minimum hourly wage will be replaced by 80% of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Living Wage as of January 1, 2025, increasing by 5% yearly until 2030. Beginning January 1, 2031, the minimum wage will be 100% of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Living Wage for the State as a whole as of January 1st of the previous year. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)