



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2018

Legislative Document

No. 1757

H.P. 1210

House of Representatives, December 22, 2017

**An Act To Protect Maine's Economy by Slowing the Rate at Which
the State's Minimum Wage Will Increase and Establishing a
Training and Youth Wage**

(EMERGENCY)

Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 20, 2017. Referred to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative STETKIS of Canaan.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAIG of Brewer, GILLWAY of Searsport, HANLEY of Pittston, HILLIARD of Belgrade, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, SUTTON of Warren.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** the increases in the rate of the minimum wage scheduled to take effect
4 over the next 4 years could have a detrimental effect on the economy of the State; and

5 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
6 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
7 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
8 therefore,

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

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

12 **1. Minimum wage.** The minimum hourly wage is ~~\$7.50 per hour. Starting January~~
13 ~~1, 2017, the minimum hourly wage is \$9.00 per hour; starting January 1, 2018. Starting~~
14 ~~June 1, 2018, the minimum hourly wage is \$10.00 \$9.50 per hour; starting January 1,~~
15 ~~2019, the minimum hourly wage is \$11.00 \$10.00 per hour; and starting January 1, 2020,~~
16 ~~the minimum hourly wage is \$12.00 \$10.50 per hour. On ; and starting January 1, 2021~~
17 ~~and each January 1st thereafter, the minimum hourly wage then in effect must be~~
18 ~~increased by the increase, if any, in the cost of living. The increase in the cost of living~~
19 ~~must be measured by the percentage increase, if any, as of August of the previous year~~
20 ~~over the level as of August of the year preceding that year in the Consumer Price Index~~
21 ~~for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, CPI-W, for the Northeast Region, or its~~
22 ~~successor index, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor~~
23 ~~Statistics or its successor agency, with the amount of the minimum wage increase~~
24 ~~rounded to the nearest multiple of 5¢, the minimum hourly wage is \$11.00. If the highest~~
25 ~~federal minimum wage is increased in excess of the minimum wage in effect under this~~
26 ~~section, the minimum wage under this section is increased to the same amount, effective~~
27 ~~on the same date as the increase in the federal minimum wage, and must be increased in~~
28 ~~accordance with this section thereafter but in no case may the minimum wage exceed the~~
29 ~~minimum wage otherwise in effect under this section by more than \$1.00 per hour.~~

30 **Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

31 **1-A. Minimum wage for training and youths.** Notwithstanding subsection 1, the
32 following minimum hourly wage may be paid to the following employees:

33 A. For the first 90 consecutive days of employment of an employee who is at least
34 18 years of age but under 20 years of age, a training wage that is the greater of:

35 (1) Eighty percent of the minimum wage in effect pursuant to subsection 1,
36 rounded to the nearest 5 cents; and

37 (2) The minimum wage required by the federal Fair Labor Standards Act; and

38 B. For an employee who has not attained 18 years of age, a youth wage that is the
39 greater of:

