
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 150 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY LEACH, FONTANA, COSTA AND HUGHES,
SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

REFERRED TO LABOR AND INDUSTRY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of January 17, 1968 (P.L.11, No.5), entitled
2 "An act establishing a fixed minimum wage and overtime rates
3 for employes, with certain exceptions; providing for minimum
4 rates for learners and apprentices; creating a Minimum Wage
5 Advisory Board and defining its powers and duties; conferring
6 powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Labor and
7 Industry; imposing duties on employers; and providing
8 penalties," further providing for definitions, for minimum
9 wages and for civil actions.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Sections 3(d), 4(a) and 13 of the act of January
13 17, 1968 (P.L.11, No.5), known as The Minimum Wage Act of 1968,
14 are amended to read:

15 Section 3. Definitions.--As used in this act:

16 * * *

17 (d) "Wages" mean compensation due to any employe by reason
18 of his or her employment, payable in legal tender of the United
19 States or checks on banks convertible into cash on demand at
20 full face value, subject to such deductions, charges or
21 allowances as may be permitted by regulations of the secretary

1 under section 9.

2 "Wage" paid to any employe includes the reasonable cost, as
3 determined by the secretary, to the employer for furnishing such
4 employe with board, lodging, or other facilities, if such board,
5 lodging, or other facilities are customarily furnished by such
6 employer to his or her employes: Provided, That the cost of
7 board, lodging, or other facilities shall not be included as a
8 part of the wage paid to any employe to the extent it is
9 excluded therefrom under the terms of a bona fide collective-
10 bargaining agreement applicable to the particular employe:
11 Provided, further, That the secretary is authorized to determine
12 the fair value of such board, lodging, or other facilities for
13 defined classes of employes and in defined areas, based on
14 average cost to the employer or to groups of employers similarly
15 situated, or average value to groups of employes, or other
16 appropriate measures of fair value. Such evaluations, where
17 applicable and pertinent, shall be used in lieu of actual
18 measure of cost in determining the wage paid to any employe.

19 [In determining the hourly wage an employer is required to
20 pay a tipped employe, the amount paid such employe by his or her
21 employer shall be an amount equal to: (i) the cash wage paid the
22 employe which for the purposes of the determination shall be not
23 less than the cash wage required to be paid the employe on the
24 date immediately prior to the effective date of this
25 subparagraph; and (ii) an additional amount on account of the
26 tips received by the employe which is equal to the difference
27 between the wage specified in subparagraph (i) and the wage in
28 effect under section 4 of this act. The additional amount on
29 account of tips may not exceed the value of tips actually
30 received by the employe. The previous sentence shall not apply

1 with respect to any tipped employe unless:

2 (1) Such employe has been informed by the employer of the
3 provisions of this subsection;

4 (2) All tips received by such employe have been retained by
5 the employe and shall not be surrendered to the employer to be
6 used as wages to satisfy the requirement to pay the current
7 hourly minimum rate in effect; where the gratuity is added to
8 the charge made by the establishment, either by the management,
9 or by the customer, the gratuity shall become the property of
10 the employe; except that this subsection shall not be construed
11 to prohibit the pooling of tips among employes who customarily
12 and regularly receive tips.] An employer shall pay a tipped
13 employe the minimum wage under section 4(a).

14 * * *

15 Section 4. Minimum Wages.--Except as may otherwise be
16 provided under this act:

17 (a) Every employer shall pay to each of his or her employes
18 wages for all hours worked at a rate of not less than:

19 (1) Two dollars sixty-five cents (\$2.65) an hour upon the
20 effective date of this amendment.

21 (2) Two dollars ninety cents (\$2.90) an hour during the year
22 beginning January 1, 1979.

23 (3) Three dollars ten cents (\$3.10) an hour during the year
24 beginning January 1, 1980.

25 (4) Three dollars thirty-five cents (\$3.35) an hour after
26 December 31, 1980.

27 (5) Three dollars seventy cents (\$3.70) an hour beginning
28 February 1, 1989.

29 (6) Five dollars fifteen cents (\$5.15) an hour beginning
30 September 1, 1997.

1 (7) Six dollars twenty-five cents (\$6.25) an hour beginning
2 January 1, 2007.

3 (8) Seven dollars fifteen cents (\$7.15) an hour beginning
4 July 1, 2007.

5 (9) Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) an hour beginning thirty days
6 after the effective date of this paragraph.

7 (10) One year after the effective date of paragraph (9), and
8 each year thereafter, the secretary shall determine the minimum
9 wage to be in effect for the subsequent one-year period by
10 taking the previous year's minimum wage and increasing it by the
11 annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all
12 Urban Consumers (CPI-U), or its successor publication, for the
13 Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland area, and
14 rounding that amount to the next highest multiple of five cents
15 (\$0.05).

16 * * *

17 Section 13. Civil Actions.--If any employe is paid by his or
18 her employer less than the minimum wages provided by section 4
19 of this act or by any regulation issued thereunder, such worker
20 may recover in a civil action triple the full amount of such
21 minimum wage less any amount actually paid to the worker by the
22 employer, together with costs and such reasonable attorney's
23 fees as may be allowed by the court, and any agreement between
24 the employer and the worker to work for less than such minimum
25 wage shall be no defense to such action. At the request of any
26 employe paid less than the minimum wage to which such employe
27 was entitled under this act and regulations issued thereunder,
28 the secretary may take an assignment of such wage claim, in
29 trust for the assigning worker and may bring any legal action
30 necessary to collect such claim, and the employer shall be

1 required to pay the cost and such reasonable attorney's fees as
2 may be allowed by the court.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.