

# House Bill 2656

Sponsored by Representative HANNA; Representative FREEMAN (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Suspends adjustment to Oregon minimum wage rate if Oregon unemployment rate exceeds national unemployment rate.

Applies to wage rate adjustments for calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2012.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to minimum wages; creating new provisions; amending ORS 653.025; and declaring an  
3 emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 653.025 is amended to read:

6 653.025. (1) Except as provided by ORS 652.020 and the rules of the Commissioner of the Bureau  
7 of Labor and Industries issued under ORS 653.030 and 653.261, for each hour of work time that the  
8 employee is gainfully employed, no employer shall employ or agree to employ any employee at wages  
9 computed at a rate lower than:

10 *[(a) For calendar year 1997, \$5.50]*

11 *[(b) For calendar year 1998, \$6.00]*

12 *[(c) For calendar years after December 31, 1998, and before January 1, 2003, \$6.50.]*

13 *[(d)]* **(a)** For calendar year 2003, \$6.90[.]; **and**

14 *[(e)]* **(b)** For calendar years after 2003, a rate adjusted for inflation.

15 (2)(a) The Oregon minimum wage shall be adjusted annually for inflation, as provided in para-  
16 graph (b) of this subsection.

17 (b) No later than September 30 of each year, beginning in calendar year 2003, the commissioner  
18 shall calculate an adjustment of the wage amount specified in subsection (1) of this section based  
19 upon the increase (if any) from August of the preceding year to August of the year in which the  
20 calculation is made in the U.S. City Average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for  
21 All Items as prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor  
22 or its successor.

23 (c) The wage amount established under this subsection shall:

24 (A) Be rounded to the nearest five cents; and

25 (B) Become effective as the new Oregon minimum wage, replacing the dollar figure specified in  
26 subsection (1) of this section, on January 1 of the following year.

27 **(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the wage amount may not be**  
28 **adjusted for a succeeding year if the Oregon monthly averaged unemployment rate, as de-**  
29 **termined by the Employment Department for the 12 months ending on August 31 of the**  
30 **current year, exceeds the United States monthly averaged unemployment rate, as deter-**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **mined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, or its**  
2 **successor, for the 12 months ending on August 31 of the current year.**

3 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 653.025 by section 1 of this 2011 Act apply to ad-**  
4 **justments to Oregon minimum wage rates for calendar years beginning on or after January**  
5 **1, 2012.**

6 **SECTION 3. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
7 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect**  
8 **on its passage.**

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