

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to raising the minimum wage closer to a living wage in the commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Jason M. Lewis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Fifth Middlesex

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1200 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to raising the minimum wage closer to a living wage in the commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 151 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the word “It”, in line 1, and inserting in place
3 thereof the following words:- Notwithstanding the provisions of section 27C of chapter 29 or any
4 other general or special law to the contrary, it.

5 SECTION 2. section 1 of said chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
6 inserting before the word “employer”, in line 2, the following words:- public or private.

7 SECTION 3. Section 1 of chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out
8 the figure “\$15.00” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$16.25.

9 SECTION 4. Section 1 of chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
10 striking out the figure “\$16.25”, inserted by section 2, and inserting in place thereof the
11 following figure:- \$17.50.

12 SECTION 5. Section 1 of chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
13 striking out the figure “\$17.50”, inserted by section 4, and inserting in place thereof the
14 following figure:- \$18.75.

15 SECTION 6. Section 1 of chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
16 striking out the figure “\$18.75”, inserted by section 5, and inserting in place thereof the
17 following figure:- \$20.00.

18 SECTION 7. Chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking section
19 1 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

20 Section 1. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 27C of chapter 29 or any other
21 general or special law to the contrary, it is hereby declared to be against public policy for any
22 public or private employer to employ any person in an occupation in this commonwealth at an
23 oppressive and unreasonable wage as defined in section 2, and any contract, agreement or
24 understanding for or in relation to such employment shall be null and void. Annually on
25 September 30 the executive office of labor and workforce development shall calculate an
26 adjusted minimum wage rate to maintain employee purchasing power by increasing the current
27 year's minimum wage rate by the rate of inflation. The adjusted minimum wage rate shall be
28 calculated to the nearest cent using the consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical
29 workers or a successor index, for the 12 months prior to each September 1st as calculated by the

30 United States department of labor. Each adjusted minimum wage rate calculated under this
31 section shall take effect on the following January 1.

32 SECTION 8. Section 7 of said chapter 151, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is
33 hereby amended by striking out, in line 33, the figure “\$6.75” and inserting in place thereof the
34 following figure:- \$7.92.

35 SECTION 9. Section 7 of said chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by
36 striking out the figure “\$7.92”, inserted by section 8, and inserting in place thereof the following
37 figure:- \$9.19.

38 SECTION 10. Section 7 of said chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
39 by striking out the figure “\$9.19”, inserted by section 9, and inserting in place thereof the
40 following figure:- \$10.55.

41 SECTION 11. Section 7 of said chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
42 by striking out the figure “\$10.55”, inserted by section 10, and inserting in place thereof the
43 following figure:- \$12.00.

44 SECTION 12. Section 7 of said chapter 151, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
45 by striking the figure “\$12.00”, inserted by section 11, and inserting in place thereof the
46 following words:- “60 per cent of the minimum wage as determined by the executive office of
47 labor and workforce development pursuant to section 1 of this chapter”.

48 SECTION 13. Section 3 and section 8 shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

49 SECTION 14. Section 4 and section 9 shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

50 SECTION 15. Section 5 and section 10 shall take effect on January 1, 2028.

51 SECTION 16. Section 6 and section 11 shall take effect on January 1, 2029.

52 SECTION 17. Section 7 and section 12 shall take effect on January 1, 2030.

53 SECTION 18. On September 30, 2029 the executive office of labor and workforce
54 development shall calculate an adjusted minimum wage rate to maintain employee purchasing
55 power by increasing the current year's minimum wage rate by the rate of inflation. The adjusted
56 minimum wage rate shall be calculated to the nearest cent using the consumer price index for
57 urban wage earners and clerical workers or a successor index, for the 12 months prior to
58 September 1, 2029 as calculated by the United States department of labor. The adjusted
59 minimum wage rate calculated under this section shall take effect on January 1, 2030.