

Senate Bill 293

By: Senators Fort of the 39th, Henson of the 41st, Orrock of the 36th, Butler of the 55th, Rhett of the 33rd and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 minimum wage, so as to revise certain provisions regarding the minimum wage law; to  
3 provide for an increase in the minimum wage; to provide for annual minimum wage  
4 increases to match the rising cost of living; to provide a credit toward the minimum wage for  
5 employers of tipped workers; to eliminate various eligibility exemptions from the minimum  
6 wage; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws;  
7 and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

10 Chapter 4 of Title 34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to minimum wage,  
11 is amended by revising Code Section 34-4-3, relating to amount of minimum wage to be paid  
12 by employers, as follows:

13 "34-4-3.

14 (a)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Code section, every employer, whether a  
15 person, firm, or corporation, shall pay to all covered employees a minimum wage which  
16 shall be not less than ~~\$5.15~~ \$15.00 per hour for each hour worked in the employment of  
17 such employer.

18 (2)(A) On January 1, 2018, and on January 1 of each successive year thereafter, the  
19 minimum wage shall be adjusted upwards to reflect the increase in the cost of living,  
20 if any, as determined by the Georgia Department of Labor pursuant to subparagraph (B)  
21 of this paragraph.

22 (B) On September 30, 2017, and on September 30 of each successive year thereafter,  
23 the Georgia Department of Labor shall measure the increase in the cost of living as  
24 being the percentage increase as of the preceding July over the July level of the  
25 immediately preceding year according to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage

26 Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) or such successor index as published by the  
 27 United States Department of Labor or its successor agency.

28 (C) Each adjusted minimum wage rate calculated pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this  
 29 paragraph shall be published and take effect on the following January 1.

30 (b) Employers of employees who meet the eligibility requirements for the tip credit under  
 31 the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. Section 203(t), may credit tips toward the  
 32 satisfaction of up to 50 percent of the minimum wage provided by this Code section.

33 ~~(b)~~(c) This chapter shall not apply with respect to:

34 (1) Any employer that has sales of ~~\$40,000.00~~ \$50,000.00 per year or less;

35 (2) Any employer having five employees or less;

36 ~~(3) Any employer of domestic employees;~~

37 ~~(4) Any employer who is a farm owner, sharecropper, or land renter;~~

38 ~~(5) Any employee whose compensation consists wholly or partially of gratuities;~~

39 ~~(6)~~(3) Any employee who is a high school or college student;

40 ~~(7)~~(4) Any individual who is employed as a newspaper carrier; or

41 ~~(8)~~(5) Any individual who is employed by a nonprofit child-caring institution or  
 42 long-term care facility serving children or mentally disabled adults who are enrolled in  
 43 such institution and reside in residential facilities of the institution, if such employee  
 44 resides in such facilities, receives without cost board and lodging from such institution,  
 45 and is compensated on a cash basis at an annual rate of not less than ~~\$10,000.00~~  
 46 \$15,000.00.

47 ~~(e)~~(d) This chapter shall not apply to any employer who is subject to the minimum wage  
 48 provisions of any act of Congress as to employees covered thereby if such act of Congress  
 49 provides for a minimum wage which is greater than the minimum wage which is provided  
 50 for in this Code section."

51 **SECTION 2.**

52 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2017.

53 **SECTION 3.**

54 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.