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TO THE PEOPLE

FORMATTING NOTE:

In initiatives, legislative bills and other proposed measures, language that is to be deleted from current statutes is represented by a "strikethrough" character and language that is to be added is underlined. Because these special characters cannot be formatted in all Internet browsers, a different set of symbols is used for presenting these proposals on-line. The symbols are as follows:

- Text that is surrounded by (({- text here -})) is text that will be *deleted from* the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- Text that is surrounded by {+ text here +} is text that will be *added to* the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- {+ NEW SECTION+} (found at the beginning of a section or paragraph) indicates that *all* of the text in that section will become law if the proposed measure is approved.

INITIATIVE 688

AN ACT Relating to the state minimum wage; and amending RCW 49.46.020.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Sec. 1. RCW 49.46.020 and 1993 c 309 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) {+ Until January 1, 1999 +}, every employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than four dollars and ninety cents per hour.

(2) {+ Beginning January 1, 1999, and until January 1, 2000, every employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than five dollars and seventy cents per hour. +}

(3) {+ Beginning January 1, 2000, and until January 1, 2001, every employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than six dollars and fifty cents per hour. +}

(4)(a) {+ Beginning on January 1, 2001, and each following January 1st as set forth under (b) of this subsection, every employer shall pay to each of his or her employees who has reached the age of eighteen years wages at a rate of not less than the amount established under (b) of this subsection. +}

(b) {+ On September 30, 2000, and on each following September 30th, the department of labor and industries shall calculate an adjusted

minimum wage rate to maintain employee purchasing power by increasing the current year's minimum wage rate by the rate of inflation. The adjusted minimum wage rate shall be calculated to the nearest cent using the consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, CPI-W, or a successor index, for the twelve months prior to each September 1st as calculated by the United States department of

labor. Each adjusted minimum wage rate calculated under this subsection (4)(b) takes effect on the following January 1st.

(5) +} The director shall by regulation establish the minimum wage for employees under the age of eighteen years.

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