

HOUSE BILL NO. 364

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE CROFT

Introduced: 2/11/00

Referred: Labor and Commerce, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to and increasing the state minimum wage."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new
4 section to read:

5 FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

6 (1) an increase in the state minimum wage will help ensure a minimum
7 standard of living for the health and well-being of every Alaskan;

8 (2) employees working full-time at the minimum wage in effect in February
9 2000, earn far less than the federal poverty level for a family of three;

10 (3) the west coast states of Washington, Oregon, and California already have
11 a higher minimum wage than the minimum wage in Alaska;

12 (4) a fair minimum wage indexed to the cost-of-living will help low-income
13 workers keep pace with inflation.

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 23.10.065(a) is amended to read:

15 (a) Except as provided under (b) of this section, **for work performed on or**

1 after the effective date of this Act and before January 1, 2001, an employer shall
2 pay to each employee wages at a rate of \$6.50 an hour [NOT LESS THAN 50
3 CENTS AN HOUR GREATER THAN THE PREVAILING FEDERAL MINIMUM
4 WAGE LAW] for hours worked in a pay period, whether the work is measured by
5 time, piece, commission, or otherwise. An employer may not apply tips or gratuities
6 bestowed upon employees as a credit toward payment of the minimum hourly wage
7 required by this section. Tip credit as defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act of
8 1938 as amended does not apply to the minimum wage established by this section.
9 For work performed beginning on January 1, 2001, through December 31, 2001,
10 an employer shall pay each employee wages at a rate of \$6.75 an hour. For work
11 performed after December 31, 2001, an employer shall pay each employee wages
12 at a rate adjusted for inflation as provided in this subsection. Beginning in 2001,
13 no later than September 30 of the calendar year, the Department of Labor and
14 Workforce Development shall, by regulation, adjust the minimum wage for
15 inflation, effective for the following calendar year, based on the Consumer Price
16 Index for all urban consumers for Anchorage, Alaska, prepared by the United
17 States Bureau of Labor Statistics. The department shall round the adjusted
18 minimum wage up to the nearest one cent. The adjusted wage shall apply to
19 work performed beginning on January 1 through December 31 of the year for
20 which it is effective.