

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2812

To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the Federal minimum wage to the value it had in 1968, and to provide for increases in such wage based on the cost of living.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2001

Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. LEE, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. OWENS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FILNER, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STARK, and Mr. WEINER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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# A BILL

To amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the Federal minimum wage to the value it had in 1968, and to provide for increases in such wage based on the cost of living.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
2       tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Minimum Wage Res-  
5       toration Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The Federal minimum wage has not kept  
4 pace with the rising cost of living.

5 (2) The Federal minimum wage has lost 37  
6 percent of its purchasing power since 1968, the year  
7 in which the purchasing power of the minimum wage  
8 reached its highest level.

9 (3) The Federal minimum wage in June 2001  
10 would have been \$8.14 an hour (compared to its ac-  
11 tual level of \$5.15 an hour), if it had kept pace with  
12 the rising cost of living since 1968.

13 **SEC. 3. MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE.**

14 (a) RATE INCREASE.—Section 6(a)(1) of the Fair  
15 Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)) is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 “(1) except as otherwise provided in this  
18 section—

19 “(A) during 2001, not less than \$5.15 an  
20 hour;

21 “(B) beginning January 1, 2002, not less  
22 than \$6.65 an hour;

23 “(C) beginning January 1, 2003, not less  
24 than \$8.15 an hour;

1                     “(D) beginning in 2004, the amount the  
2                     Secretary determines under subsection (g), as  
3                     adjusted for the cost of living;”.

4             (b) COST OF LIVING INCREASE.—Section 6 of the  
5 Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206) is  
6 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
7 section:

8             “(g)(1) Beginning in 2003, not later than 5 days  
9 after the date on which the Commissioner of Social Secu-  
10 rity publishes the applicable increase percentage under  
11 section 215(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
12 415(i)), the Secretary shall determine and publish the  
13 amount of the minimum wage applicable for the next cal-  
14 endar year, which shall be—

15             “(A) for wages payable in 2004, the rate under  
16 subsection (a)(1)(C) increased by the cost of living  
17 adjustment applicable between July 1, 2001, and  
18 such date of publication by the Commissioner; and

19             “(B) for wages payable in each year after 2004,  
20 the rate for the current calendar increased by the  
21 cost of living adjustment.

22             “(2) In this subsection and subsection (a)(1), the  
23 term ‘cost of living adjustment’ means the applicable in-  
24 crease percentage under section 215(i) of the Social Secu-

1 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)) effective for benefits payable  
2 in January of the next calendar year.”.

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