

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2023
COMMITTEE STATEMENT (CORRECTED)
LB15

Hearing Date: Monday January 30, 2023
Committee On: Business and Labor
Introducer: Briese
One Liner: Change provisions of the Wage and Hour Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	4	Senators Halloran, Hansen, B., Ibach, Riepe
Nay:	2	Senators Hunt, McKinney
Absent:	1	Senator Blood
Present Not Voting:		

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Tom Briese
Shannon McCord
Kyla Habrock
Mathew Habrock
Bud Synhorst
Bob Hallstrom
Zoe Olson

Representing:

District 41
Nebraska Grocery Industry Association
Hasting Early Childhood Development Center
Hastings Early Childhood Development Center
LIBA
National Federation of Independent Businesses
Nebraska Hospital Association

Opponents:

Felicia Hilton
Kimbal McClure
Thomas Blanton
Garret Swanson
Emma Haar
Ken Smith
Ace Grim
Anahi Salazar
Erin Feichtinger
Cassandra Griffin
Susan Martin
Petar Georgia
Spike Eickholt

Representing:

North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
Self
Self
Holland Children's Movement
Self
Nebraska Appleseed
Self
Voices for Children in Nebraska
Women's Fund of Omaha
Nebraska Civic Engagement Table
NE State AFL-CIO
Self
ACLU of Nebraska

Neutral:

Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 15 amends provision of the Wage and Hour Act to allow employers to pay a youth minimum. Additionally, the bill allows employers to pay new employees a training wage.

Section 1: Establishes the youth minimum wage, anyone who is at least fourteen years of age but no more than seventeen years of age, at \$9.00 per hour through December 31, 2023; for calendar year 2024, the minimum wage is established at \$9.25 per hour; In the calendar year 2025, the minimum wage increases to \$9.50 per hour; beginning January 1, 2026, the minimum wage is raised to \$10 per hour.

Section 2: Establishes a training wage for employers to pay new employees who are at least eighteen (18) years of age, but under twenty (20) years of age, who are not seasonal or migrant workers. The training wage minimum is set at \$9.25 per hour through December 31, 2024. The rate increases to \$9.50 per hour for calendar year 2024, \$9.75 per hour for calendar year 2025, and \$10.00 per hour for calendar year 2026. Beginning January 1, 2027, a rate of seventy-five percent (75%) of the minimum wage rate that would otherwise be applicable under section 48-1203 shall be used.

Explanation of amendments:

AM11 made the following changes to LB15:

- Replaces section 1 (5) and sets the youth minimum wage at \$10.50 an hour indefinitely.
- Replaces section 2 (2) and sets the training wage rate at \$10.50 an hour until Dec. 31, 2026. Starting Jan. 1, 2027, the training wage rate would be 75% of the minimum wage rate under 48-1203.

Merv Riepe, Chairperson