STATE OF NEW YORK

4514

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 6, 2025

Introduced by Sen. RAMOS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to requiring the commissioner of labor to prepare an annual report on the cost of living, poverty rates and adequacy of the current minimum wage in the state

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 21 of the labor law is amended by adding a new subdivision 17 to read as follows:

17. Shall prepare and submit to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly and the chairs of the senate and assembly committees on labor on or before the thirtieth day of September an annual report on the state's cost of living, poverty rates, and the adequacy of the current minimum wage. The report shall analyze the change in living costs using the various available and widely consulted cost of living measures, including but not limited to the MIT living wage calculator, the EPI family budget calculator, and the University of Washington self-sufficiency standard. The report shall also analyze changes in poverty and child poverty for households that include one or more workers, using American Community Survey data for the latest available year. Such analysis shall examine changes in the specified measures for each year since December thirty-first, two thousand eighteen, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability status, household size, profession and education level for each of four regions of the state, which shall be defined as: the city of New York; the suburban counties of Westchester, Suffolk and Nassau; the Hudson Valley counties of Rockland, Putnam, Orange, Ulster, Greene, Dutchess, Columbia, Albany, and Rensselaer; and the counties of the remainder of the state. The report shall also compare the current and projected future value of the state's upstate minimum wage with the minimum wages in other high-cost states, including but not limited to Washington,

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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California and Hawaii, and compare the current and projected future value of the state's minimum wage in the city of New York, and the counties of Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk with the minimum wages in other high-cost cities, including but not limited to Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and Denver. The commissioner may include in the report such other analysis as they find useful in assessing the adequacy of the state's minimum wage. In preparing the report and determining its methodology, the commissioner shall consult with a three-person advisory committee, the members of which shall consist of one appointee each by the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.