



## **BREAKING NEWS: Ohio's Minimum Wage Will Increase January 1, 2012**

On Friday, the Ohio Department of Commerce announced that Ohio's minimum wage will increase on January 1, 2012 to \$7.70 per hour for non-tipped employees and to \$3.85 per hour for tipped employees, plus tips. Currently, Ohio's minimum wage is \$7.40 per hour for non-tipped employees and \$3.70 for tipped employees, plus tips.

On January 1, 2012, the increased minimum wage will apply to employers who gross more than \$283,000 per year. Ohio's current minimum wage standard applies to employers who gross more than \$271,000 annually.

For employees at smaller companies - those grossing \$283,000 or less per year after January 1, 2012 - and for 14- and 15-year-olds, the state minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour. For these employees, the state wage is tied to the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour.

"While this is disappointing news to all of us in the foodservice industry, this information comes early enough that owners and operators can use it to begin making some tough decisions with their 2012 budgets," said Richard Mason, the ORA's Director of Government Affairs.

In November 2006, voters passed a constitutional amendment that states Ohio's minimum wage shall increase on January 1 of each year by the rate of inflation. The state minimum wage is tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for urban wage earners and clerical workers for the 12-month period prior to September. This CPI index rose 4.3 percent from September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011. The amendment also states that the wage rate shall be rounded to the nearest 5 cents.

For additional information on Ohio's 2012 minimum wage, visit <http://1.usa.gov/ojT4I7>.

To read the release distributed from the Ohio Department of Commerce, [CLICK HERE](#).

Please contact your William Vaughan Company professional if you have any questions or wish to discuss how this change affects you.

**Thank you for your business!**

**William Vaughan Company**