

Immediate News Release
7/24/08

The New Hampshire Department of Labor announced today that due to a change in federal law, there will be an increase in the minimum wage from \$6.50 per hour to \$6.55 per hour effective July 24, 2008. On September 1, 2008 minimum wage will increase to \$7.25 per hour due to a change in state law.

Many businesses are subject to both state and federal law and the more stringent law prevails.

Any employee who receives tips (regardless of age) directly from the customer in the restaurant, motel, inn, and cabin occupations shall be paid at least minimum wage with the employer paying 45% of the minimum wage and the other 55% being made up in tips by the end of the pay period. Tipped employee rate as of today July 24, 2008 is \$2.95 and the September 1, 2008 rate is \$3.27. Also, New Hampshire employees in the restaurant, hotel, motel, inn and cabin occupations **CANNOT BE MANDATED TO PARTICPATE IN TIP POOLING OR SHARING.**

Any questions regarding the change in minimum wage should be directed to the New Hampshire Department of Labor, 95 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301. Telephone number (603) 271-3176.

We strongly encourage all businesses to visit our website www.labor.state.nh.us to access mandatory posters and for further information regarding New Hampshire labor laws.

THE FOLLOWING CHART SHOWS THE SCHEDULED INCREASES IN THE MINIMUM WAGE.

Effective Date:	Minimum Wage:	Base Rate for tipped employees of a restaurant, hotel, motel, inn or cabin, NH only
Current	\$6.50 (State)	\$2.93
7/24/08	\$6.55 (Feds.)	\$2.95
9/1/08	\$7.25 (State)	\$3.27
7/24/09	\$7.25 (State & Feds)	\$3.27