



HB 0321

2003

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to local government; prohibiting local governments from requiring employers to pay a minimum wage in excess of the federal minimum wage; providing exceptions; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, promoting the economic growth and prosperity of its citizens is among the most important responsibilities of the state, and

WHEREAS, this economic growth and prosperity depends upon maintaining a stable business climate that will attract new employers to the state and allow existing employers to grow, and

WHEREAS, with regard to worker wages, federal minimum wage provisions strike the necessary balance between the interests of workers and their employers, and

WHEREAS, allowing each local government to establish minimum wage levels in their individual jurisdictions higher than those required by federal law would threaten to drive businesses out of these communities and out of the state in search of a more favorable and uniform business environment, and

WHEREAS, higher minimum wage standards differing from one locale to another would encourage residents to conduct their business in jurisdictions where wage costs, and hence prices, are lower, and

WHEREAS, such artificial constraints would disrupt Florida's economy and threaten the public welfare, NOW,

THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:



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31 Section 1. (1) As used in this section, the term:

32 (a) "Federal minimum wage" means a minimum wage required  
33 under federal law, including the federal Fair Labor Standards  
34 Act of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. ss. 201 et seq.

35 (b) "Minimum wage" means a minimum rate of compensation  
36 for employment.

37 (c) "Political subdivision" means a county, municipality,  
38 department, commission, district, board, or other public body,  
39 whether corporate or otherwise, created by or under state law.

40 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3), no  
41 political subdivision may establish, mandate, or otherwise  
42 require an employer to pay a minimum wage, other than a federal  
43 minimum wage, or to apply a federal minimum wage to wages exempt  
44 from such a federal minimum wage.

45 (3) This section does not limit the authority of a  
46 political subdivision to establish a minimum wage other than a  
47 federal minimum wage:

48 (a) For the employees of the political subdivision;

49 (b) For the employees of an employer contracting to  
50 provide goods or services for the political subdivision, or for  
51 the employees of a subcontractor of such an employer, under the  
52 terms of a contract with the political subdivision; or

53 (c) For the employees of an employer receiving a direct  
54 tax abatement or subsidy from the political subdivision, as a  
55 condition of the direct tax abatement or subsidy.

56 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.