

Minimum Wage (Amendment) Bill

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Enable the national minimum wage to be varied to reflect local labour market conditions; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Low Pay Commission inquiry

The Low Pay Commission must consider and take evidence on the availability of employment opportunities and the impact of the national minimum wage on job creation and access to employment in all travel to work areas where the average level of unemployment in the preceding year has been above the national average, and must consider in the light of that assessment whether to recommend that the minimum wage in any such area should be set at a level below the national minimum wage. 5

2 Duties of Secretary of State

- (1) If the Low Pay Commission, following an inquiry conducted under section 1, recommends that the minimum wage operating in any area comprising one or more travel to work areas should be set at a level below the national minimum wage, the Secretary of State must make regulations to bring the recommendation into effect. 10
- (2) The regulations must be made by statutory instrument and are subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament. 15
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay the regulations before Parliament within a period of 3 months beginning with the day on which the Low Pay Commission makes its recommendation.
- (4) The regulations may include provision amending, repealing, revoking or disapplying existing statutory provision (whenever passed or made). 20

3 Existing contracts of employment

A decision to set a minimum wage in any area comprising one or more travel to work areas below the national minimum wage must not affect existing contracts of employment.

4 Interpretation

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In this Act a “travel to work area” is an area so defined by the Office for National Statistics.

5 Financial provisions

There shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament –

- (a) any expenditure incurred under or by virtue of this Act by a Minister of the Crown or by a government department, and* 10
- (b) any increase attributable to this Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided.*

6 Commencement, short title and extent

- (1) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed. 15
- (2) This Act may be cited as the Minimum Wage (Amendment) Act 2011.
- (3) This Act extends to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

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To enable the national minimum wage to be varied to reflect local labour market conditions; and for connected purposes.

*Presented by Mr Christopher Chope,
supported by Mr Peter Bone, Mr Mark Field,
Mr David Nuttall and Mr Douglas Carswell.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 5 July 2010.*

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