

JAN 21 2026

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
AND TOURISM.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. (a) The research and economic analysis  
2 division of the department of business, economic development,  
3 and tourism shall conduct a study on the impacts of the minimum  
4 wage increases implemented pursuant to Act 114, Session Laws of  
5 Hawaii 2022. As part of the study, the division shall examine  
6 and analyze:

7       (1) The number of businesses or other employers in the  
8 State that:

9       (A) Are subject to section 387-2, Hawaii Revised  
10 Statutes, and have been impacted by the minimum  
11 wage increases implemented pursuant to Act 114,  
12 Session Laws of Hawaii 2022; and

13       (B) The number of businesses or other employers that  
14 closed or shut down due to increased labor costs,  
15 including an analysis of other factors that  
16 contributed to business closures; and



1 (2) Comparative research of other states that have set a  
2 higher minimum wage rate than Hawaii, including  
3 impacts on businesses and other employers in those  
4 states.

5 (b) The division shall submit a report of its findings and  
6 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
7 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
8 the regular session of 2027.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for  
12 the purposes of this Act.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
14 business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes of  
15 this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Lynn DeBate



# S.B. NO. 2129

**Report Title:**

DBEDT; Study; Minimum Wage; Increases; Impact on Businesses and Other Employers; Report; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to study the impacts of the incremental minimum wage increases pursuant to Act 114, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, on businesses and other employers. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

