

Senate passes three-tier minimum wage

Minimum wage would rise to \$13.50 in Clatsop County

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Senate on Thursday passed a controversial bill that sets three regional minimum wage rates throughout the state.

The bill now proceeds to the House of Representatives, where there appears to be enough support for passage, lawmakers said.

The bill hikes wages from \$9.25 to \$14.75 in the Portland metro area, \$12.50 in rural and coastal areas with struggling economies and \$13.50 in the rest of the state by 2022. The rates are based on median income and cost of living in those regions and what it takes to be “self-sufficient” — to pay basic expenses

such as food, housing and transportation, said Sen. Michael Dembrow, D-Portland, who proposed the measure.

The Senate approved the measure along party lines 16-to-12 Thursday after more than six hours of debate.

“It’s our task as legislators to craft a policy that takes the needs of all Oregonians into account,” Dembrow said. “I believe that this bill does that.”

GOP opposition

Republicans launched a tactical attack to stall the measure. They forced a vote to move the bill back to six different committees to consider amendments but failed at each attempt in the Democrat-dominated Senate.

Republicans said the increase would kill jobs, hurt small businesses and farmers and make goods and services more expensive for seniors and people with disabilities who are on fixed incomes.

Sen. Kim Thatcher, R-Keizer, said the bill would

harm the “very people you’re trying to help.”

Dembrow responded by citing a study by researchers from Deakin University who looked at 1,500 estimates in 64 studies on the impact from minimum wage increases on employment and found there was almost “zero effect.”

Republicans accused Democrats of hastily pushing the bill through the Senate without sufficient consideration to the fiscal impact on state and local governments. Sen. Doug Whitsett, R-Klamath Falls, moved to send the bill to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to do a thorough fiscal analysis, especially the cost of the increase to the state.

“If we don’t do this, we are going to confirm people’s suspicion that Salem is the capital of unintended consequences,” said Senate Minority Leader Ted Ferrioli, R-John Day.

The legislative fiscal office has reported that the cost of the measure to state and local gov-

ernments is indeterminate. Part of the difficulty in estimating the cost is that the measure gradually takes effect, and several factors are unknown such as the number of jobs paid more than minimum wage that might be subject to a corresponding increase. The office also said the state could expect revenue increases from the additional income that could offset some of the costs.

Sen. Richard Devlin, D-Tualatin, co-chairman of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means, said he doubted his committee could give better answers than the legislative fiscal office.

Alternative proposal

Thatcher made a motion to replace the bill with an alternative proposal from Republicans failed 19-to-9.

Thatcher’s proposal would have raised minimum wage by 25 cents in 2017 while exempting 20 rural and economically distressed counties and certain types of employers and workers. Employers with 50 employees

or less, agricultural and timber workers, temporary employees working 720 hours or less per year and workers 19 and younger also would be exempt from the increase.

The 20 counties that would have been exempt were Baker, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler.

The Republican alternative also provided a network of tax credits for certain costs associated with raising minimum wage in other parts of the states, including companies with 100 employees or less.

Increases start in July

The proposal that passed Thursday hikes wages beginning in July from \$9.25 to \$9.75 statewide.

The minimum gradually would climb to \$14.75 in 2022 in the Portland urban growth boundary, which includes parts

of Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties. It will rise to \$13.50 in Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Deschutes, Hood River, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, Tillamook, Wasco, and Yamhill counties, and parts of Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties outside Portland’s urban growth boundary.

In rural areas, the minimum would increase to \$12.50. Those areas include Malheur, Lake, Harney, Wheeler, Sherman, Gilliam, Wallowa, Grant, Jefferson, Baker, Union, Crook, Klamath, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Umatilla and Morrow counties.

The bill was intended to offer an alternative to ballot initiatives that would raise the minimum to \$15 or \$13.50 statewide and would repeal a ban on municipalities and counties from setting a higher wage.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Tonight
Periods of rain
47°

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs

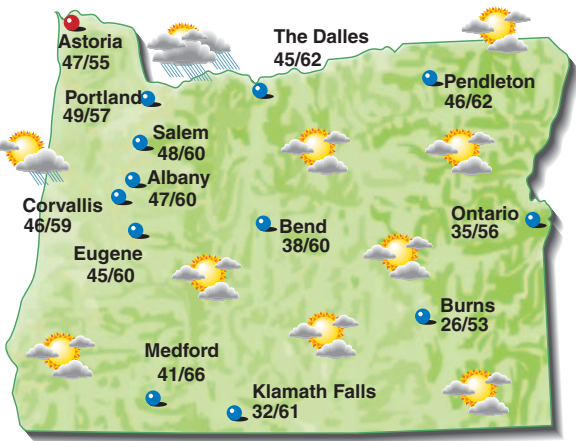
Tuesday
Mostly cloudy with a passing shower or two
55° 46°

Wednesday
Cloudy with rain in the afternoon
59° 45°

Thursday
Breezy and cooler with rain at times
53° 45°

Friday
Breezy with rain
53° 43°

Oregon Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2016

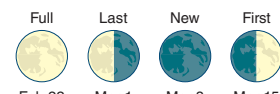
Almanac

Astoria through Sunday.

| Temperatures | |
|----------------------|--------|
| High | 53° |
| Low | 51° |
| Normal high | 52° |
| Normal low | 37° |
| Precipitation | |
| Yesterday | 0.88" |
| Month to date | 3.69" |
| Normal month to date | 3.73" |
| Year to date | 17.44" |
| Normal year to date | 13.93" |

Sun and Moon

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Sunset tonight | 5:40 p.m. |
| Sunrise Tuesday | 7:18 a.m. |
| Moonrise today | 11:34 a.m. |
| Moonset today | 1:23 a.m. |



Regional Cities

| City | Today | | | Tues. | | |
|---------------|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
| Baker City | 52 | 32 | pc | 51 | 33 | pc |
| Bend | 59 | 38 | pc | 60 | 42 | pc |
| Brookings | 60 | 46 | pc | 60 | 48 | pc |
| Eugene | 63 | 45 | pc | 60 | 45 | pc |
| Ilwaco | 54 | 48 | r | 52 | 49 | sh |
| Klamath Falls | 60 | 32 | c | 61 | 39 | pc |
| Medford | 67 | 41 | pc | 66 | 44 | pc |
| Newport | 57 | 48 | c | 57 | 48 | pc |
| North Bend | 62 | 47 | pc | 62 | 48 | pc |

Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: ISS is visible at 6:14 p.m., at an altitude of 85 degrees south-southwest, moving west-northwest to east-southeast.

Tomorrow's Tides

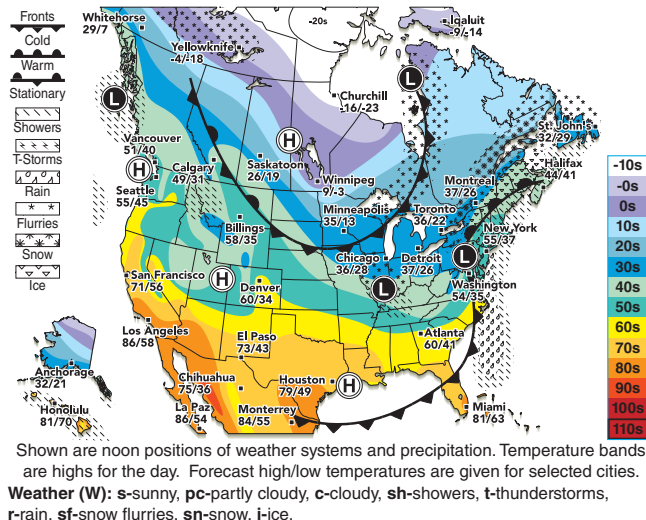
Astoria / Port Docks

| Time | High | Time | Low |
|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| 7:21 a.m. | 8.9 ft. | 1:03 a.m. | 2.7 ft. |
| 8:53 p.m. | 6.8 ft. | 2:38 p.m. | 0.9 ft. |

National Cities

| City | Today | | | Tues. | | |
|----------------|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
| Atlanta | 48 | 41 | r | 60 | 41 | pc |
| Boston | 26 | 26 | sn | 52 | 36 | r |
| Chicago | 34 | 22 | c | 36 | 28 | sf |
| Denver | 58 | 35 | pc | 60 | 34 | s |
| Des Moines | 39 | 31 | pc | 38 | 23 | c |
| Detroit | 34 | 25 | sn | 37 | 26 | c |
| El Paso | 71 | 39 | s | 73 | 43 | s |
| Fairbanks | 13 | -3 | sn | 12 | -5 | c |
| Honolulu | 82 | 71 | s | 81 | 70 | sh |
| Indianapolis | 41 | 23 | c | 40 | 25 | sn |
| Kansas City | 52 | 38 | c | 49 | 27 | pc |
| Las Vegas | 76 | 50 | s | 75 | 49 | s |
| Los Angeles | 67 | 58 | s | 86 | 58 | s |
| Memphis | 51 | 39 | r | 61 | 36 | pc |
| Miami | 77 | 70 | c | 81 | 63 | sh |
| Nashville | 43 | 34 | r | 50 | 33 | r |
| New Orleans | 73 | 48 | t | 71 | 51 | s |
| New York | 34 | 33 | sn | 55 | 37 | r |
| Oklahoma City | 66 | 42 | pc | 66 | 37 | r |
| Philadelphia | 36 | 35 | sn | 56 | 33 | r |
| St. Louis | 47 | 32 | c | 45 | 32 | sh |
| Salt Lake City | 49 | 36 | c | 48 | 34 | pc |
| San Francisco | 71 | 53 | s | 71 | 56 | s |
| Seattle | 55 | 47 | r | 55 | 45 | sh |
| Washington, DC | 34 | 32 | sn | 54 | 35 | r |

Tomorrow's National Weather



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities. Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Finnish hit shows at archival center

The Daily Astorian

NASELLE, Wash. — The Appelo Archives Center in Naselle, Washington, will show “Drifting Clouds,” a Finnish film written and directed by Aki Kaurismäki, at 11 a.m. Saturday.

The art house comedy tells the story of a married couple struggling with unemployment who open a restaurant.

“Drifting Clouds” is in Finnish, with English subtitles, and runs 96 minutes. In 1997, the film won best film,

actress, direction, script and supporting actress at the Jussi Awards, Finland’s premier film awards event.

The Appelo Archives Center is at 1056 State Route 4, 2 miles east of Naselle-Grays River Valley Schools.

MEMORIAL

Wednesday, Feb. 17

SHEETS, Robert Allen — Memorial at 2 p.m., fourth floor dining room, Clatsop Care Center, 646 16th St. He is interred at Greenwood Cemetery, 91569 Oregon Highway 202.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

- Cannon Beach Public Works**, 9 a.m., City Hall 163 E. Gower St.
- Seaside Tourism Advisory Committee**, 3 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Clatsop County Human Services Advisory Council**, 4 to 5:30 p.m., 800 Exchange St., Room 430.
- Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission**, 5:15 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.
- Knappa School Board**, 5:30 p.m., Knappa High School library, 41535 Old U.S. Highway 30.
- Seaside Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., work session, 6 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

- Port of Astoria Commission**, 5 p.m., executive session (closed to public), 6 p.m., regular meeting, old Port offices, 422 Gateway Ave.
- Seaside School District**, 6 p.m., 1801 S. Franklin St.
- Astoria City Council**, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.
- Shoreline Sanitary District Board**, 7 p.m., Gearhart Hertig Station, 33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton.

WEDNESDAY

- Sunset Empire Parks and Rec District**, 5 p.m., 1225 Ave. A, Seaside.

LOTTERIES

OREGON

- Sunday's Pick 4:**
 - 1 p.m.: 5-4-6-5
 - 4 p.m.: 0-5-9-1
 - 7 p.m.: 3-5-3-9
 - 10 p.m.: 3-5-8-4
- Saturday's Megabucks:** 3-7-11-22-32-39
- Estimated jackpot:** \$7 million.
- Saturday's Powerball:** 7-15-18-19-36
- Powerball:** 20
- Estimated jackpot:** \$176 million.

WASHINGTON

- Sunday's Daily Game:** 4-4-1
- Sunday's Keno:** 04-05-12-19-21-22-33-35-37-40-43-46-50-52-56-59-60-63-72-78
- Sunday's Match 4:** 07-18-20-24
- Saturday's Daily Game:** 6-3-2
- Saturday's Hit 5:** 04-07-13-15-33
- Estimated jackpot:** \$170,000
- Saturday's Keno:** 02-07-09-11-18-19-20-22-33-34-42-49-57-64-65-68-70-73-74-78
- Saturday's Lotto:** 02-03-06-19-34-39
- Saturday's Match 4:** 01-02-21-24
- Friday's Daily Game:** 8-9-6
- Friday's Keno:** 01-04-08-18-19-22-25-29-33-35-45-51-52-54-56-61-63-71-75-77
- Friday's Match 4:** 01-13-14-18
- Friday's Mega Millions:** 01-07-44-68-73, Mega Ball: 1
- Estimated jackpot:** \$87 million.

CORRECTIONS

Name incorrect — Amelia Fitch, the daughter of David and Beth Fitch of Astoria, has been admitted to Cambridge University in England to pursue her master of philosophy degree in biological sciences. Her first name was incorrect in a story on 2B Friday.

Date incorrect — Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Gooding was shot and killed Feb. 5. The date of his death was incorrect in a 1A story Thursday.

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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