



Department of Administration  
Budget and Policy Division

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## AB/SB 12

- A Minimum Wage Advisory Council appointed by Governor Doyle recommended increasing the minimum wage to \$5.70 beginning October 2005 and \$6.50 beginning October of 2006. This council consisted of a bi-partisan group of individuals from labor and business groups.
- Following the recommendation of this advisory council, the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) enacted the minimum wage increases through administrative rule. DWD has had this authority since 1913.
- AB/SB 12 would not only prevent the implementation of these proposed minimum wage increases, they would also remove the authority of the Department of Workforce Development to increase the minimum wage by administrative rule. This means any future increase to the minimum wage would have to be done by statute.
- Negotiations are under way between the Doyle administration and the Republican leadership to increase the minimum wage to \$6.50 but to preempt local minimum wage increases. Currently Madison and Milwaukee have adopted ordinances to increase their minimum wages. Lacrosse is also looking into this possibility.

**For more information, please contact:**

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