

Connecticut Minimum Wage to Rise

On March 27, Governor Malloy signed into law a bill which will increase Connecticut's minimum wage over the next several years. Currently at \$8.70 per hour, it increases to \$9.15/hour as of January 1, 2015; to \$9.60/hour as of January 1, 2016; and finally to \$10.10/hour as of January 1, 2017. If the federal minimum wage increases (an unlikely occurrence at this point in time) the Connecticut increase could be even higher: it will either be \$10.10/hour, or ½ percent higher than the highest federal minimum wage, whichever is greater.

This new law does not change the treatment of tipped workers. The base wage remains at \$5.69/hour for waitpersons and \$7.34/hour for bartenders, with a gratuity allowance of 34.6% of the minimum wage for waitstaff and 15.6% for bartenders. The combined amount of the base wage and the amount derived from tips must equal at least the minimum wage. Since the Connecticut minimum wage exceeds the federal minimum wage, the Connecticut minimum wage applies to tipped service employees.

Please contact Hugh F. Murray, III at 860.240.6077 or hmurray@murthlaw.com if you have any questions concerning the Connecticut minimum wage.

If you have any questions about the issues addressed here, or any other matters involving Labor and Employment issues, please feel free to contact:

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