



# Governor Wolf's Proposed Budget May Increase Pennsylvania's Minimum Wage and Create Jobs for the Middle Class

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On February 7, 2017, Governor Wolf presented his proposed 2017-2018 budget to the state legislature, focusing on protecting senior services and education, raising the state of PA minimum wage, as well as creating new programs that are supposed to help businesses grow.

## **Funding for Apprenticeships**

The proposed budget will include a \$5 million grant program partnership for manufacturing training programs. The program will provide \$2,000 in funding for apprentices, in turn helping businesses train their future workers. The funding for the apprenticeship program will come from companies that received but have failed to utilize state assistance.

## **Minimum Wage Increase**

Wolf is also proposing a hike in the state minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$12.00 an hour, which may be approved as early as this year. This plan would contribute \$95 million in income tax revenue to the state each year.

## **One-Stop Shop for Businesses**

Governor Wolf also wants to make it easier for small businesses to start and grow by centralizing state government services. He proposes that the Department of Community and Economic Development consolidate state government services and work with other state agencies to provide a single point of access for tax filing, workers compensation, licensing, and more.

When you have human resource questions, contact McCloskey Partners and we will be sure to assist you or make sure you are directed to the appropriate industry experts.

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