

SENATE No. 2940

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**
—

SENATE, November 5, 2020.

The committee on Labor and Workforce Development, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1082) of Patricia D. Jehlen, Tricia Farley-Bouvier, James B. Eldridge, Sean Garballey and other members of the General Court for legislation to require one fair wage, reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2940).

For the committee,
Patricia D. Jehlen

SENATE No. 2940

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act requiring one fair wage.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 There shall be a special commission to study and make recommendations to address
2 concerns about wages of restaurant workers. The commission shall examine the impact of the
3 state minimum wage replacing the tipped minimum wage for restaurant workers. The
4 commission’s review shall include, but shall not be limited to: (i) the impact of COVID-19 on
5 the restaurant industry; (ii) how the restaurant industry has been affected in states that do not
6 have a separate wage for tipped employees; (iii) how tipped employees have been affected in
7 states that do not have a separate wage for tipped employees; (iv) the impact on consumers; (v)
8 the potential regional impact of eliminating the tipped minimum wage in the Commonwealth;
9 (vi) policy options that could alleviate the impact of increased labor cost on restaurants; and (vii)
10 policy changes the legislature could enact to increase the profitability of restaurants. The
11 commission shall consist of the following: the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on
12 labor and workforce development, or their designees, who shall serve as co-chairs; the secretary
13 of administration and finance, or a designee; 3 representatives of unions or community-based
14 organizations that represent or serve workers in the restaurant industry, one each to be appointed

15 by the speaker of the house, the senate president, and the secretary of labor and workforce
16 development, to be selected from a list of 5 nominees submitted by One Fair Wage, Inc.; and 3
17 representatives of industry groups that represent restaurants and restaurant owners, one each to
18 be appointed by the speaker of the house, the senate president, and the secretary of labor and
19 workforce development, to be selected from a list of 5 nominees submitted by the Massachusetts
20 Restaurant Association, provided that at least one of the nominees be a representative of a
21 restaurant that currently pays all employees the full minimum wage. The commission shall hold
22 its first meeting no later than 30 days after the effective date of this act and may hold additional
23 public meetings, fact-finding hearings and other public forums as it considers necessary. The
24 commission shall report the results and recommendations of its study, together with drafts of
25 legislation, if necessary, to carry its recommendations into effect, by filing a report with the joint
26 committee on labor and workforce development not later than January 1, 2022.