112TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R.42

To provide for a credit for certain health care benefits in determining the minimum wage.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2011

Mr. Issa introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To provide for a credit for certain health care benefits in determining the minimum wage.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "Health Care Incentive5 Act".

6 SEC. 2. MINIMUM WAGE CREDIT FOR HEALTH BENEFITS 7 PROVIDED TO EMPLOYEES.

8 (a) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall
10 promulgate a rule requiring that, for any employer en-

gaged in interstate commerce that is required by Federal 1 2 or State law to pay a minimum wage at a rate that is 3 higher than the minimum wage required by section 6(a)4 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 5 206(a)) as in effect on September 1, 1997, such employer be permitted, in accordance with regulations promulgated 6 7 by the Secretary, to include the value of creditable health 8 care benefits provided by such employer to an employee 9 in determining the wage such employer is required to pay 10 an employee. Such rule shall include the following:

(1) CREDITABLE BENEFITS.—The Secretary
shall define the categories of health care benefits
provided by an employer to employees to be considered creditable for purpose of this section, which
shall include a contribution to a health savings account or similar account.

17 (2) VALUATION.—The Secretary shall establish
18 a method for determining the value of such health
19 care benefits for purposes of such credit.

20 (3) REQUIRED MINIMUM VALUE.—The Sec21 retary shall determine a minimum value of such ben22 efits that an employer shall provide to an employee
23 in order to include any portion of such benefits as
24 such a credit.

(4) MINIMUM CASH WAGE NOTWITHSTANDING
 CREDIT.—In no case shall the credit permitted by
 the rule promulgated under this section exceed the
 difference between the minimum wage under section
 6(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29)
 U.S.C. 206(a)) as in effect September 1, 1997, and
 the wage rate otherwise applicable.

8 (b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of the rule required 9 under this section, the terms "employer", "employee", and 10 "wage" shall have the meanings given such terms in sec-11 tion 3 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 12 U.S.C. 203).

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