



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 180

LCO No. 990

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Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:
(LAB)

AN ACT INCREASING PENALTIES ON EMPLOYERS FOR REFUNDS OF WAGES IN EXCHANGE FOR FURNISHING EMPLOYMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 31-73 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2013*):

3 (a) When used in this section, "refund of wages" means: (1) The
4 return by an employee to his employer or to any agent of his employer
5 of any sum of money actually paid or owed to the employee in return
6 for services performed or (2) payment by the employer or his agent to
7 an employee of wages at a rate less than that agreed to by the
8 employee or by any authorized person or organization legally acting
9 on his behalf.

10 (b) No employer, contractor, subcontractor, foreman,
11 superintendent or supervisor of labor, acting by himself or by his
12 agent, shall, directly or indirectly, demand, request, receive or exact
13 any refund of wages, fee, sum of money or contribution from any
14 person, or deduct any part of the wages agreed to be paid, upon the
15 representation or the understanding that such refund of wages, fee,

16 sum of money, contribution or deduction is necessary to secure
17 employment or continue in employment. No such person shall require,
18 request or demand that any person agree to make payment of any
19 refund of wages, fee, contribution or deduction from wages in order to
20 obtain employment or continue in employment. A payment to any
21 person of a smaller amount of wages than the wage set forth in any
22 written wage agreement or the repayment of any part of any wages
23 received, if such repayment is not made in the payment of a debt
24 evidenced by an instrument in writing, shall be prima facie evidence of
25 a violation of this section.

26 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any deductions
27 from wages made in accordance with the provisions of any law, or of
28 any rule or regulation made by any governmental agency.

29 (d) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be
30 fined not more than [one] two thousand five hundred dollars, or
31 imprisoned not more than thirty days for the first offense, and, for each
32 subsequent offense, shall be fined not more than five [hundred]
33 thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six months or both.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2013</i>	31-73

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the penalty for employers who request or demand refunds of wages for furnishing employment to his or her employees.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]