



WAGE ORDER NO. RBVI-26

PROVIDING FOR A MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE IN REGION VI (WESTERN VISAYAS)

WHEREAS, the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board VI (RTWPB-VI) is mandated under Republic Act No. 6727, otherwise known as the Wage Rationalization Act to periodically assess wage rates and conduct continuing studies in the determination of the minimum wage applicable in the region or industry;

WHEREAS, the last minimum wage adjustment took effect on 26 November 2019 by virtue of Wage Order No. RBVI-25;

WHEREAS, on 08 March 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued *Proclamation No. 922 Series of 2020*, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to COVID-19, subsequently extended until 12 September 2022 by virtue of *Proclamation No. 1218 Series of 2021*;

WHEREAS, with different quarantine classifications or alert levels changing every few weeks per locality, regional growth was severely disrupted and the economy bent to its worst condition. Most provinces and cities in the region were only de-escalated to lower alert levels on the last quarter of 2021, with Iloilo City and Iloilo Province last to de-escalate only in March 2022;

WHEREAS, further, the Russia-Ukraine Conflict by the end of 2021 has pushed world petroleum prices, with the sharpest recorded increase in March 2022. Since the issuance of the last wage order, there has been a thirty percent (30%) increase in diesel petroleum prices and a nineteen point six percent (19.6%) increase in gasoline/unleaded fuel prices in Western Visayas;

WHEREAS, the Board received on 14 March 2022 a petition filed by FISHTA Union of Employees for Reforms through Solidarity Actions (FUERSA-SUPER) seeking a new uniform daily minimum wage rate of Seven Hundred Fifty Pesos (Php 750.00), or an increase of Three Hundred Fifty-Five Pesos (Php 355.00) for non-



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agriculture, industrial or commercial establishments employing more than ten (10) workers; Four Hundred Forty Pesos (Php 440.00) for non-agriculture, industrial or commercial establishments employing ten (10) workers or less; and Four Hundred Thirty Five Pesos (Php 435.00) for the agricultural sector;

WHEREAS, after due notice to all stakeholders, the Board conducted a series of blended (simultaneous physical and virtual) public hearings on 08 April 2022 in Talisay City, Negros Occidental; 11 April 2022 in Iloilo City, Iloilo; and 12 April 2022 in Kalibo, Aklan to assess and determine the propriety of issuing a new wage order;

WHEREAS, in setting the minimum wage, the Board has to consider the various criteria under Republic Act No. 6727, as well as the guidelines on the *Two-Tiered Wage System*;

WHEREAS, after a thorough review and evaluation of socio-economic conditions in the region, the average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all items in the region is at one hundred thirteen pesos and eighty centavos (113.80), the regional inflation rate is at four point nine percent (4.9%), and the average regional Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) is eighty eight centavos (0.88), all at 2018 base year. Based on latest available data from the Philippine Statistics Office (PSA), the Producer Price Index (PPI) for Manufacturing is at a downtrend. As of 2020, the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) posed a growth rate of negative nine point seven percent (-9.7%) in 2020. Only the agricultural sector posed an increase, albeit only at one point one percent (1.1%), while the industrial and services sector suffered at negative one point nine percent (-1.9%) and negative eight point nine percent (-8.9%), respectively;

WHEREAS, the poverty threshold for Western Visayas as of the 1st semester of 2021 is at three hundred seventy pesos (Php 370.00) per day;

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority vested under Republic Act No. 6727, RTWPB-VI hereby issues this Wage Order.

SECTION 1. NEW MONTHLY MINIMUM WAGE RATES. The new minimum wage rate for workers in private establishments in Western Visayas shall be as follows:



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Sector/Industry	Minimum Wage Rate under Wage Order No. RBVI-25	Amount of Increase	New Minimum Daily Wage
1. Non-Agriculture/ Industrial/Commercial			
A. Employing more than ten (10) workers	Php 395.00	Php 55.00	Php 450.00
B. Employing ten (10) workers or less	Php 310.00	Php 110.00	Php 420.00
2. Agriculture	Php 315.00	Php 95.00	Php 410.00

This covers the provinces of Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo and Negros Occidental, including their component cities and highly urbanized cities of Iloilo and Bacolod.

SECTION 2. BASIS OF MINIMUM WAGE RATES. The minimum wage rates prescribed under this Order shall be for the normal working hours which shall not exceed eight (8) hours of work per day.

SECTION 3. COVERAGE. The wage increase prescribed in this Order shall apply to all minimum wage earners in private establishments in Western Visayas, regardless of their position, designation or status and irrespective of the method by which their wages are paid.

SECTION 4. PENAL PROVISION. Any person, corporation, trust, firm, partnership, association or entity who refuses or fails to pay the prescribed increase

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shall be dealt with pursuant to the provisions of *Section 12 of RA No. 6727*, as amended by *RA No. 8188*.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVITY. This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in Western Visayas.

APPROVED, this ____ day of May 2022 in the City of Iloilo, Philippines.

LUIS B. ESTRELLA

Management Representative

WENNIE G. SANCHO

Labor Representative

REYNALDO T. AMBAO

Management Representative

TERESITA SILMA B. BALGOS

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DIR. REBECCA M. RASCON

Vice-Chairperson

Regional Director, DTI VI

(electronically signed)

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Vice-Chairperson

Regional Director, NEDA VI

DIR. SIXTO T. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

Chairperson

Regional Director, DOLE VI

(For NWPC Secretariat)

Date of Publication: 20 day of May 2022
Date of Effectivity: 05 day of June 2022