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Technical Bulletins: Tennessee Cities Not Affected by Minimum Wage Increase

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TENNESSEE CITIES NOT AFFECTED BY MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Tennessee cities are reminded that on June 24, 1976, the U. S. Supreme Court decided the case of National League of Cities, et al. v. Usery, Secretary of Labor. The league and a number of cities and states had challenged the validity of the 1974 amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act extending the Act's minimum wage and maximum hours provisions to almost all employees of states and their political subdivisions.

The effect of the decision is that the minimum wage and maximum hours (overtime) provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act are not applicable to municipal employees in the areas of fire prevention, police protection, sanitation, public health, parks, recreation, schools and hospitals.

However, in most instances persons employed by the city under federal programs (CETA, for example) must be paid the minimum wage. And it should be remembered that private concerns with whom the city competes for potential workers also are covered by FLSA.

For further information, contact the MTAS personnel administration consultant serving your city or, if you have legal questions, MTAS Municipal Law Consultant Eugene Puett (Nashville office).