

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 2

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*House of Representatives, Jan. 20, 1915.*

*Ordered, that five hundred copies be printed and that the same be referred to the Committee on Labor.*

*Committee of Reference.*

*Presented by Mr. Descoteaux of Biddeford.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN

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AN ACT relative to the hours of employment of women and minors.

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*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:*

Section 1. No female minor under eighteen years of age,  
2 no male minor under sixteen years of age, and no woman  
3 shall be employed in any workshop, factory, manufacturing,  
4 mechanical or mercantile establishment, laundry or res-  
5 taurant, telegraph or telephone establishment, or office, or  
6 by any express or transportation company in the state of  
7 Maine, more than nine hours in any one day; except when  
8 a different apportionment of the hours of labor is made  
9 for the sole purpose of making a shorter day's work for

10 one day of the week; and in no case shall the hours of  
11 labor exceed fifty-four in a week.

Sect. 2. No female under eighteen years of age and no  
2 male under sixteen years of age shall be employed or per-  
3 mitted to work in or in connection with any of the estab-  
4 lishments or occupations named in section 1 of this act,  
5 before the hours of seven o'clock in the morning or after  
6 the hour of six o'clock in the evening of any one day.

Sect. 3. No female shall be employed or permitted to  
2 work for more than six hours continuously at one time in  
3 any establishment or occupation named in section 1 of this  
4 act in which three or more such females are employed with-  
5 out an interval of at least one hour; except that such female  
6 may be so employed for not more than six and one-half  
7 hours continuously at one time if such employment ends  
8 not later than half-past one o'clock in the afternoon and if  
9 she is then dismissed for the remainder of the day.

Sect. 4. Every employer shall post and keep posted in a  
2 conspicuous place in every room in any establishment or  
3 place of occupation named in section 1 of this act in which  
4 females or male minors under sixteen years of age are  
5 employed, a printed notice stating the number of hours  
6 such females or male minors are required or permitted to  
7 work on each day of the week, the hours of beginning and  
8 ending, the recess allowed for meals. The printed form  
9 of such notice shall be furnished by the commissioner of  
10 labor and industry and state factory inspector.

The employment of any such female or male minor for  
12 a longer time in any day than that stated in the printed  
13 notice shall be deemed a violation of the provisions of this  
14 section. Whenever the nature of the business makes it  
15 impracticable to fix the recess allowed for males at the  
16 same time for all females or male minors employed, the  
17 commissioner of labor and industry and state factory in-  
18 spector may issue a permit dispensing with the posting of  
19 the hours when the recess allowed for meals begins and  
20 ends, and requiring only the posting of the total number  
21 of hours which females or male minors are required or  
22 permitted to work on each day of the week, and the hours  
23 of beginning and stopping such work. Such permit shall  
24 be kept by such employer upon such premises and exhibited  
25 to the commissioner of labor and industry and state factory  
26 inspector, his deputy, or any authorized agent of the labor  
27 department, who are hereby authorized to enforce this act.

Sect. 5. Every employer shall keep a time book or record  
2 for every female, and every male minor under sixteen years  
3 of age employed in any establishment or occupation named  
4 in section 1 of this act, stating the wages paid, the number  
5 of hours worked by each female and each male minor under  
6 sixteen years of age on each day of the week, the hours  
7 of beginning and stopping such work, and the hours of  
8 beginning and ending recess allowed for meals. Such time  
9 book or record shall be open at all reasonable hours to the  
10 inspection of the commissioner of labor and industry and

11 state factory inspector, his deputy, or any authorized agent  
12 of the labor department. Any employer who fails to keep  
13 such record as required by this section or makes any false  
14 entry therein, or refuses to exhibit such time book or rec-  
15 ord, or makes any false statement to the commissioner of  
16 labor and industry and state factory inspector, his deputy,  
17 or any authorized agent of the labor department, in reply  
18 to any question put in carrying out the provisions of this  
19 act shall be liable for a violation thereof.

Sect. 6. Any person who violates any of the provisions  
2 of this act shall upon conviction be punished by a fine of  
3 not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than fifty dollars  
4 for the first offense; for the second offense by a fine of not  
5 less than fifty dollars nor more than two hundred dollars;  
6 for a third offense and every subsequent offense by a fine  
7 of not less than two hundred and fifty dollars nor more  
8 than five hundred dollars.

Sect. 7. Nothing in the six preceding sections shall apply  
2 to any manufacturing establishment or business, the ma-  
3 terials and products of which are perishable and require  
4 immediate labor thereon, to prevent decay thereof or dam-  
5 age thereto.

Sect. 8. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith  
2 are hereby repealed.