

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Second Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 11.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND
EIGHTY-FIVE.

AN ACT to regulate the hours of labor, and the employment of women and minors in manufacturing establishments.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. Any person or corporation engaged
2 in manufacturing in this state, which requires from
3 persons in his or its employ, under penalty of for-
4 feiture of a part of the wages earned by them, a
5 notice of intention to leave such employ, shall be
6 liable to the payment of a like forfeiture if he or it
7 discharges, without similar notice, a person in such
8 employ, except for incapacity or misconduct, unless
9 in case of a general suspension of labor in his or
10 its shop or factory.

SECT. 2. No minor under eighteen years of age
2 and no woman shall be employed in laboring in
3 any manufacturing establishment more than ten
4 hours in any one day, except when a different ap-
5 portionment of the hours of labor is made for the
6 sole purpose of making a shorter day's work for
7 one day of the week; and in no case shall the
8 hours of labor exceed sixty in a week. Every
9 employer shall post in a conspicuous place in every
10 room where such persons are employed, a printed
11 notice, stating the number of hours work required
12 of them on each day of the week; and the employ-
13 ment of any such person for a longer time in any
14 day than so stated shall be deemed a violation of
15 this section.

SECT. 3. Whoever, either for himself or as sup-
2 erintendent, overseer, or other agent of another,
3 employs or has in his employment any person in
4 violation of the provision of the preceding sec-
5 tion, and every parent or guardian who permits
6 any minor to be so employed, shall be punished by
7 a fine of not less than fifty nor more than one
8 hundred dollars for each offence. Said penalty
9 shall extend to corporations. A certificate of the
10 age of a minor, made by him and by his parent or
11 guardian at the time of his employment in any

12 manufacturing establishment, shall be conclusive
13 evidence of his age upon any trial for a violation
14 of the preceding section.

SECT. 4. No child under ten years of age shall
2 be employed in any manufacturing establishment
3 in this state; and no child under twelve years of
4 age shall be so employed during the hours in
5 which the public schools are in session in the city
6 or town in which he resides. Any parent or guar-
7 dian, and every owner, superintendent, agent or
8 overseer of such manufacturing establishment who
9 permits such employment shall for each offence
10 forfeit not less than twenty nor more than fifty
11 dollars, for the use of the public schools of the
12 city or town.

SECT. 5. No child under fifteen years of age
2 shall be so employed, except during the vacations
3 of the public schools, unless during the year next
4 preceding such employment he has for at least
5 four months attended some public or private day
6 school, under teachers approved by the school
7 committee of the place where such school is kept;
8 nor shall such employment continue unless such
9 child in each and every year attends school as herein
10 provided, and no child shall be so employed who
11 does not present a certificate made by or under the
12 direction of said school committee of his compli-
13 ance with the requirements of this section.

SECT. 6. Any owner, agent or superintendent of
2 such manufacturing establishment, for each viola-
3 tion of the preceding section, forfeits one hundred
4 dollars, to be recovered by indictment, half to the
5 prosecutor and half to the town where the offence
6 was committed to be added to its school money.
7 Superintending school committees shall inquire
8 into such violations, and report them to the county
9 attorney who shall prosecute therefor.

SECT. 7. Each city and town where such manu-
2 facturing establishments exist shall annually
3 choose, in the same manner that constables are
4 chosen, one or more persons to act as inspectors
5 of manufacturing establishments, whose duty it
6 shall be to enforce the provisions of the six pre-
7 ceding sections; and for this purpose may enter
8 all buildings used for manufacturing purposes and
9 make investigations as to the employment of women
10 and minors as provided in this act. Said inspec-
11 tors shall receive such compensation as such cities
12 and towns may vote.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 21, 1885.

Reported from Committee on Judiciary, and ordered printed.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*