

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Second Legislature.

HOUSE.

132.

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 Employ-
ment of 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 in
2 manufacturing in this State, that requires from persons in
3 his or its employ, under penalty of forfeiture of the
4 whole or a part of the wages earned by them, a notice of
5 intention to leave such employ, shall be liable to the pay-
6 ment of a like forfeiture if he or it discharges without
7 similar notice a person in such employ without reasonable
8 cause, unless in case of a general suspension of labor in
9 his or its shop or factory. But the recovery of such for-
10 feiture shall not impair the rights of any employe to
11 recover damages at common law.

SECT. 2. No minor under twelve years of age shall be
2 employed in laboring in any manufacturing establishment

3 more than ten hours in any one day, except when a dif-
4 ferent apportionment of the hours of labor is made for
5 the sole purpose of making a shorter day's work for one
6 day of the week ; and in no case shall the hours of labor
7 of such minor exceed sixty in a week.

SECT. 3. Whoever, either for himself or as superin-
2 tendent, overseer, or other agent of another, knowingly
3 employs or has in his employment any minor in violation
4 of the provision of the preceding section, and every
5 parent or guardian who permits any minor to be so em-
6 ployed, shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty
7 nor more than one hundred dollars for each offence. A
8 certificate of the age of a minor, made by him and by his
9 parent or guardian at the time of his employment in any
10 manufacturing establishment, shall be conclusive evidence
11 of his age upon any trial for a violation of the preceding
12 section.

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

SECT. 5. No child under fifteen years of age shall be
2 so employed, except during the vacations of the public
3 schools, unless during the year next preceding such em-

4 ployment he has, for at least four months, attended some
5 public or private day school ; nor shall such employment
6 continue unless such child in each and every year attends
7 school as herein provided, and no child shall be so em-
8 ployed who does not present a certificate made by or
9 under the direction of the school committee or teacher of
10 such private day school of his compliance with the re-
11 quirements of this section.

SECT. 6. Any owner, agent or superintendent of such
2 manufacturing establishment, for each violation of the
3 preceding section, forfeits one hundred dollars, to be re-
4 covered by indictment ; half to the county and half to the
5 city or town where the offense was committed, to be added
6 to its school money. Superintending school committees
7 and town supervisors of schools shall inquirein to such
8 violations and report them to the county attorney, who
9 shall prosecute therefor.

SECT. 7. Upon petition of thirty or more persons, tax
2 payers of any city or town where manufacturing establish-
3 ments exist, the Governor, with the consent of the Council,
4 may appoint one or more persons inspectors of manu-
5 facturing establishments in such city or town, whose duty
6 it shall be to enforce the provisions of the six preceding
7 sections ; and for this purpose said inspectors may enter
8 all buildings in such city or town used for manufacturing
9 purposes, and make investigation as to the employment
10 of minors contrary to the provisions of this act. Such
11 inspectors shall receive such compensation as such city or
12 town may vote.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 19, 1885. }

On motion of Mr. HEATH of Augusta, tabled and ordered printed.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*