

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty - Third Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 159.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to provide for a Bureau of Industrial and  
Labor Statistics.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a separate and distinct department, which shall be called the Bureau of Industrial and Labor Statistics.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of this department to collect, assort, systematize, and present in annual reports, to the Governor, to be by him transmitted biennially to the Legislature, statistical details, relating to all departments of labor in the State, especially in its relations to the commercial, industrial, social, educational and sanitary condition

8 of the laboring people, and to the permanent pros-  
9 perity of the productive industries of the State,  
10 and also to enquire into the immediate causes of  
11 strikes, lock-outs or other disturbances of the rela-  
12 tions between employers and employes.

SECT. 3. The Governor shall, with the advice  
2 and consent of the Council, appoint immediately  
3 after this act goes into effect, and thereafter  
4 biennially, on the first Wednesday in February,  
5 some suitable person, who is identified with the  
6 labor interests, and who shall be designated com-  
7 missioner of industrial and labor statistics, with  
8 an office in such place as shall be designated by the  
9 Governor.

SECT. 4. The commissioner herein named, shall  
2 receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars,  
3 and to aid in carrying out the provisions of this  
4 act, said commissioner is hereby authorized to  
5 employ such assistance and incur such expense,  
6 not exceeding five hundred dollars per annum, as  
7 shall be necessary to carry out the provisions of  
8 this act.

SECT. 5. The commissioner shall have power to  
2 take and preserve evidence, examine witnesses  
3 under oath, and administer the same, and in the  
4 discharge of his duty, may enter any public insti-

5 tution of the State, and at reasonable hours  
6 when open for business, any factory, workshop,  
7 mine or other place where labor may be employed.

SECT. 6. All State, county, city and town officers,  
2 are hereby directed to furnish to said commissioner  
3 upon his request, all statistical information in refer-  
4 ence to labor and labor industries, which shall be  
5 in their possession as such officers.

SECT. 7. There is hereby appropriated out of any  
2 money remaining in the State treasury the sum of  
3 four thousand dollars for the ensuing two years for  
4 the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this  
5 act; the commissioner herein named shall receive  
6 his salary in monthly instalments and the expenses  
7 of the bureau shall be paid on the vouchers pre-  
8 sented by the commissioner after the same shall  
9 have been audited and approved by the Governor  
10 and Council.

SECT. 8. Chapter one hundred and one of the  
2 resolves of eighteen hundred and seventy-three and  
3 all other acts and parts of acts inconsistent with  
4 this act are hereby repealed.

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect and be in force  
2 from and after its approval.

STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. }  
February 23, 1887. }

Reported from Committee on Labor by Mr. LYONS of Vinalhaven;  
ordered printed under joint rule.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*