

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

---

Legislative Document

No. 1550

H.P. 1117

House of Representatives, May 8, 1989

Reported by Representative McHENRY from the Committee on Labor and printed under Joint Rule 2.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Original bill sponsored by Representative ROLDE of York.

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

---

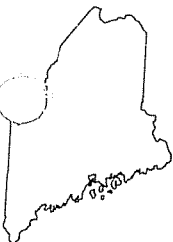
An Act to Study the Employment of Minors.

---

(NEW DRAFT OF H.P. 259, L.D. 371)

(NEW TITLE)

(EMERGENCY)



1           **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted  
3 as emergencies; and

5           Whereas, the low unemployment rates within the State have  
6 created labor shortages in many industries, causing severe  
7 problems for employers in those industries; and

9           Whereas, these employers are in many instances turning to  
10 the employment of minors to meet their employment needs during  
11 both the school year and vacations; and

13           Whereas, the employment of minors provides valuable work  
14 experience and training for the minor children involved but  
15 raises serious concerns regarding its effect upon the social and  
16 educational development of the minors; and

17           Whereas, adequate information is currently unavailable and  
18 needs to be acquired as soon as possible for the Legislature to  
19 promptly address these issues; and

21           Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
22 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
23 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
24 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
25 safety; now, therefore,

27  
28 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

29           **Sec. 1. Commission established; membership.** The Commission to  
30 Study the Employment of Minors is established to study all  
31 aspects of the employment of minors. The commission shall be  
32 composed of the following members:

35           A. Three members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor,  
36 appointed by the chairs of that committee;

37           B. Three members of the Joint Standing Committee on  
38 Education, appointed by the chairs of that committee; and

41           C. Three members of the public appointed jointly by the  
42 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
43 Representatives.

45           All appointments under this section shall be made before July 1,  
46 1989. The appointing authority shall notify the Executive  
47 Director of the Legislative Council of the appointments as soon  
48 as they are made.

49           **Sec. 2. Chair; call of first meeting.** The members of the  
50 commission shall select a chair from among the members. The  
51 Chair of the Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of  
52 the commission before July 15, 1989.

1  
3  
5  
7  
9  
11  
13  
15  
17  
19  
21  
23  
25  
27  
29  
31  
33  
35  
37  
39  
41  
43  
45  
47  
49  
51

**Sec. 3. Compensation; staff.** The members of the commission who are Legislators shall receive the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, for each day's attendance at commission meetings. All members of the commission shall receive reimbursement for expenses upon application to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

Staff assistance shall be requested from the Legislative Council. The Department of Labor, the Department of Educational and Cultural Services and all other agencies of State Government shall cooperate with the commission and provide or develop relevant information or statistics upon request.

**Sec. 4. Duties of commission.** In conducting the study, the commission shall examine all aspects of the employment of minors, including:

A. The number of hours worked by minors, the time of day in which this employment occurs and the time of year in which this employment occurs;

B. The rate of pay received by minors in employment;

C. The types of industry or business in which minors are employed and the positions held by minors within those industries or businesses;

D. Those industries or businesses in which the employment of minors is restricted or prohibited and the suitability of those restrictions;

E. The effect of the employment of minors upon the employment of adults in the same industry or business;

F. The injury rate and types of injuries suffered by minors in employment;

G. The adequacy of current inspections and enforcement of the child labor laws; and

H. The effects of employment upon the social and educational development and achievement of minors.

**Sec. 5. Report.** The commission shall present its findings, together with any recommended legislation to be submitted to the Second Regular Session of the 114th Legislature, no later than December 1, 1989.

**Sec. 6. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

