

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 460

In Senate, March 10, 1913.

*Came from the House referred to the Committee on Labor,
and on motion by Senator Packard of Knox laid on the table
for printing pending reference in concurrence.*

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND THIRTEEN.

AN ACT to constitute nine hours a day's work for public
employees.

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

Section 1. The services of all laborers, workmen and me-
2 chanics, now or hereafter employed by the state or by any
3 county or city therein, or by any contractor or sub-contractor
4 for or upon any public works of the state, or of any county
5 or city therein is hereby restricted to nine hours in any one
6 calendar day, and it shall be unlawful for any officer of the
7 state, or of any county or city therein, or for any such con-
8 tractor or sub-contractor or other person whose duty it shall

9 be to employ, direct or control the service of such laborers,
10 workmen or mechanics to require or permit any such laborer,
11 workman or mechanic to work more than nine hours in any
12 one calendar day, except in cases of extraordinary emer-
13 gency. Danger to property, life, public safety or public
14 health only shall be considered cases of extraordinary emer-
15 gency within the meaning of this section. In cases where
16 a Saturday half-holiday is given the hours of labor upon
17 the other working days of the week may be increased suffi-
18 ciently to make a total of fifty-four hours for the week's
19 work. Threat of loss of employment or to obstruct or pre-
20 vent the obtaining of employment or to refrain from employ-
21 ing in the future, shall each be considered to be "requiring"
22 within the meaning of this section.

Sect. 2. It is further provided, however, that if a petition
2 for such vote, signed by one hundred or more registered
3 voters of a city, is filed with the city clerk, thirty days or
4 more before an annual election such city may vote to make
5 eight hours a day's work under the same conditions as pro-
6 vided for a nine-hour work day under this act. The pro-
7 visions of this section shall not apply to any city that has
8 established an eight-hour work day previous to the passage
9 of this act.

Sect. 3. Every contract, excluding contracts for the pur-
2 chase of material or supplies, to which the state, or any coun-
3 ty or city therein is a party which may involve the employ-
4 ment of laborers, workmen or mechanics shall contain a

5 stipulation that no laborer, workman or mechanic working
6 within this state, in the employ of the contractor, sub-con-
7 tractor or other person doing or contracting to do the whole
8 or a part of the work contemplated by the contractor shall
9 be requested or required to work more than nine hours in
10 any one calendar day, and every such contract which does
11 not contain this stipulation shall be null and void.

Sect. 4. Any agent or official of the state or of any county
2 or city therein or any contractor or sub-contractor or any
3 agent or person acting on behalf of any contractor or sub-
4 contractor who violates any provision of this act shall be
5 punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or
6 by imprisonment for six months or both such fine and im-
7 prisonment for each offence.

Sect. 5. This act shall not apply to the preparation, print-
2 ing, shipment and delivery of ballots to be used at a caucus,
3 primary, state or city election, nor during the sessions of
4 the general court to persons employed in legislative printing
5 or binding; nor shall it apply at any time to persons em-
6 ployed in any state, county or municipal institution; on a
7 farm, or in the care of the grounds, in the stable, in the
8 domestic or kitchen and dining-room service or in store
9 rooms and offices.

Sect. 6. At any trial arising under the provisions of this
2 act, evidence that laborers, workmen or mechanics have
3 worked or are working over nine hours in any one calendar

4 day shall be prima facie evidence of the violation of the
5 provisions of this act.

Sect. 7. All laws, acts and parts of acts inconsistent here-
2 with are hereby repealed.