

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 323

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*House of Representatives, Feb. 16, 1917.*

*Referred to Committee on Judiciary and one thousand copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.*

*W. R. ROIX, Clerk.*

*Presented by Mr. Brewster of Portland.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

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AN ACT to amend Section Twenty-one of Chapter Forty-nine of the Revised Statutes Relating to Regulations for Employment of Minors Between Fourteen and Sixteen Years Old.

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

Section twenty-one of chapter forty-nine of the Revised  
2 Statutes is hereby amended by inserting after the words:  
3 "or a passport showing the birth" in the twenty-third line of  
4 said section, the words: 'Or other documentary evidence  
5 satisfactory to the person issuing the certificate,' so that  
6 said section as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 21. No minor between the ages of fourteen and  
2 sixteen years shall be employed, permitted or suffered to  
3 work in any of the aforementioned occupations unless the  
4 person, firm or corporation employing such child procures  
5 and keeps on file accessible to any truant officer, factory  
6 inspector or other authorized officer charged with the en-  
7 forcement of sections twenty to thirty-one, both inclusive,  
8 of this chapter, a work permit issued to said child by the  
9 superintendent of schools of the city or town in which the  
10 child resides, or by some person authorized by him in writ-  
11 ing. The person authorized to issue a work permit shall  
12 not issue such permit until such child has demonstrated his  
13 ability to read at sight and write simple sentences in the  
14 English language and perform simple arithmetical problems  
15 involving the fundamental processes of addition, subtrac-  
16 tion, multiplication and division, such educational test to be  
17 prepared and furnished by the superintendent of schools  
18 or the school committee of each city and town in the state,  
19 or has furnished a certificate to that effect signed by any  
20 teacher in any of the public schools of the city or town in  
21 which such child resides, or by the principal of any ap-  
22 proved private school; nor until he has received, examined,  
23 approved and filed satisfactory evidence of age showing  
24 that the child is fourteen years old or upwards; such evi-  
25 dence shall consist of a certified copy of the town clerk’s  
26 record of the birth of said child, or a certified copy of his  
27 baptismal record, showing the date of his birth, and place

28 of baptism, or a passport showing the birth, or other docu-  
29 mentary evidence satisfactory to the person issuing the cer-  
30 tificate. The superintendent of schools, or the person au-  
31 thorized to issue such work permit may require in doubtful  
32 cases, a certificate signed by a physician appointed by the  
33 school board, or in case there is no school physician, from  
34 the medical officer of the board of health, stating that such  
35 child has been examined by him, and in his opinion, has  
36 reached the normal development of a child of its age, and  
37 is in sufficiently sound health and physically able to perform  
38 the work which he intends to do. The state factory in-  
39 spector, his deputy or agent, may require a similar certifi-  
40 cate in doubtful cases, of the minors employed under a work  
41 permit. A work permit when duly issued shall excuse such  
42 child from attendance at public school; but no person shall  
43 issue such permit to any minor then in or about to enter  
44 his employment or the employment of the firm or corpo-  
45 ration of which he is a member, stockholder, officer or em-  
46 ployee.'