

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - N I N T H   L E G I S L A T U R E

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Legislative Document

No. 290

S. P. 217

In Senate, February 2, 1939.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent down for concurrence and 1000 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Chase of Washington by request.

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S T A T E   O F   M A I N E

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
THIRTY-NINE

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AN ACT Relating to the Employment of Women and Minors.

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

R. S., c. 54, §§ 21, 23, 24, amended. Sections 21, 23 and 24 of chapter 54 of the revised statutes, as amended, are hereby further amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 21. Females not to be employed more than 8 hours a day; minors under 16 years of age not to be employed more than 8 hours a day; exceptions.** No female shall be employed in any workshop, factory, manufacturing or mechanical establishment, more than ~~nine~~ 8 hours in any one day; except when a different apportionment of the hours of labor is made for the sole purpose of making a shorter day's work for one day of the week; and in no case shall the hours of labor exceed ~~fifty-four~~ 48 in a week. And no minor under 16 years of age shall be employed in any of the said establishments or occupations more than 8 hours in any one day. **And no female shall be employed in any of the above mentioned establishments before 6:45 A. M. or after 5:30 P. M., except when any of the establishments are operated on regular shifts, so-called. If females are found in any of the above establishments before 6:45 A. M. or after 5:30 P. M., it shall be prima facie evidence of their being employed; and the person, firm, or cor-**

poration, agent or manager of any firm or corporation, shall be subject to the penalties provided for in section 32.'

'Sec. 23. **Minors under 16 and females not to be employed more than 48 hours in any one week; exceptions.** No male minor under 16 years of age and no female shall be employed in any telephone exchange employing more than 3 operators or in any mercantile establishment, store, **hotel, camp, tourist home,** restaurant, laundry, telegraph office, or by any express or transportation company in the state of Maine more than ~~fifty-four~~ **48** hours in any one week. The provisions of this section shall not apply between the 17th day of December and the 24th day of December both inclusive, and shall not apply during the 8 days prior to Easter Sunday to persons employed in millinery shops or stores. In cases of emergency, in which there is danger to property, life, public safety, or public health and in cases of extraordinary public requirement the provisions of sections 21 to 27 inclusive shall not apply to employers engaged in public service.'

'Sec. 24. **No female to be employed more than 5 hours, continuously; exceptions.** No female shall, except in cases of emergency or extraordinary public requirement as provided in section 23, be employed or permitted to work for more than ~~six~~ **5** hours continuously at one time in any establishment or occupation named in sections 21 and 23 in which 3 or more such females are employed, without an interval of at least one hour; except that such female may be so employed for not more than 6 ~~and one-half~~ hours continuously at one time if such employment ends not later than half-past one o'clock in the afternoon and if she is then dismissed for the remainder of the day, but this shall not apply to any telephone exchange where the operator during the night is not required to operate at the switchboard continuously but is able to sleep the major part of the night.'