

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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S. P. 342

In Senate, February 11, 1941.

Referred to the Committee on Labor and 500 copies ordered printed.  
Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Laughlin of Cumberland.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Relating to Hours of Employment.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 54, § 21, amended.** Section 21 of chapter 54 of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter 144 of the public laws of 1931, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

**‘Sec. 21. Persons not to be employed more than 48 hours in 1 week; minors under 16 years of age not be employed more than 8 hours a day. No person shall be employed in any work-shop, factory, manufacturing or mercantile establishment or laundry for more than 48 hours in any one week, unless such employee receives compensation for his employment in excess of the hours above specified at a rate to be determined by agreement between such employee and his employer. 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.’**

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 54, § 23, amended.** Section 23 of chapter 54 of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter 144 of the public laws of 1931, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

**‘Sec. 23. Hours of labor regulated in certain employment; employment of minors; exceptions. No person shall be employed in any telephone exchange or in any mercantile establishment, store, restaurant, laundry, telegraph office, or by any express or transportation company in the state**

of Maine more than 48 hours in any one week, unless such employee receives compensation for his employment in excess of the hours above specified at a rate to be determined by agreement between such employee and his employer. 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. 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 of the revised statutes shall not apply to employers engaged in public service.'

**Sec. 3. R. S., c. 54, § 24, amended.** Section 24 of chapter 54 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**'Sec. 24. No person to be employed more than 6 hours continuously; exceptions.** No person shall, except in cases of emergency or extraordinary public requirement, as provided in section 23, be employed or permitted to work for more than 6 hours continuously at one time in any establishment or occupation named in sections 21 and 23 without an interval of at least one hour; except that such person may be employed for not more than 6½ hours continuously at one time, if he 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.'

**Sec. 4. R. S., c. 54, § 26, amended.** Section 26 of chapter 54 of the revised statutes, as amended by section 5 of chapter 238 of the public laws of 1937, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 26. Employers to keep a record of hours of work.** Every employer shall keep a time-book or record for every ~~female, and every male minor under sixteen years of age,~~ **person** employed in any establishment or occupation named in sections 21 and 23 of this chapter, stating the number of hours worked by each ~~female and each male minor under sixteen years of age~~ **person** on each day of the week. Such time-book or record shall be ~~opened~~ **open** at all reasonable hours to the inspection of the commissioner of labor and industry and state factory inspector, his deputy, or any authorized agent of the labor department. Any employer who fails to keep such record as required by this section or makes any false entry therein, or refuses to exhibit such time-book or record, or makes any false statement to the commissioner of labor and industry and state factory inspector, his deputy, or any authorized agent of the labor department in reply to any question put in carrying out the provisions of sections 21 to 27, inclusive, shall be liable for a violation thereof.'