

# NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

### Legislative Document

#### No. 238

H. P. 162 Referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and 750 copies ordered printed.

Presented by Mr. Treworgy of Orono.

#### HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

## STATE OF MAINE

#### IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE

#### AN ACT Relating to Rest Periods for Female Employees.

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

**R. S., c. 30, § 36, amended**. Section 36 of chapter 30 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 36. No female to be employed more than  $6\frac{1}{2}$  hours at one time. No female shall, except in cases of emergency or extraordinary public requirement as provided in section 32, be employed or permitted to work for more than 6 $6\frac{1}{2}$  hours <del>continuously</del> at one time in any establishment or occupation named in sections 30 and 32 in which 3 or more such females are employed, without en interval of at least one hour a consecutive 30-minute rest period; except that such female may be so employed for not more than  $6\frac{1}{2}$  hours continuously at one time if such employment ends not later than 1-30 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. Females employed in any workshop, factory, manufacturing or mechanical establishment on a shift period of more than 61/2 hours shall be given not less than a consecutive 30-minute rest period on each shift at such a time, so that the employee does not work more than  $6\frac{1}{2}$  consecutive hours on any one shift without such rest period. The commissioner may permit a shorter time to be fixed for rest periods in any manufacturing establishment, if it is proved to his satisfaction that it is necessary by reason of the continuous nature of the processes or of special circumstances affecting such manufacturing establishment and that such shorter time for rest periods will not be injurious to the health of the females affected thereby. The permit shall be in writing and copies shall be posted in a conspicuous place in every room in which females affected thereby are employed.'