

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1919

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Ninth Legislature

1919

[supplied from page 3 of volume]

Chapter 190.

An Act to Amend Sections Twenty, Twenty-one, and Twenty-three of Chapter Forty-nine of the Revised Statutes, as Amended by Chapter One Hundred and Forty-six of the Public Laws of Nineteen Hundred and Seventeen, Relating to the Employment of Children.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 49, § 20; relating to employment of children of school age, amended. Section twenty of chapter forty-nine of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "fourteen" in line three and inserting in place thereof the word 'fifteen', so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'**Sec. 20. Maximum limit changed to fifteen years.** No child under fourteen years of age shall be employed, permitted or suffered to work in, about, or in connection with any manufacturing or mechanical establishment. No child under fifteen years of age shall be employed, permitted or suffered to work at any business or service for hire, whatever, during the hours that the public schools of the town or city in which he resides are in session.

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 49; § 21; 1917, c. 146; relating to issuance of work permit to children under fourteen years of age, amended. Section twenty-one of chapter forty-nine of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter one hundred and forty-six of the public laws of nineteen hundred and seventeen, is hereby amended by striking out in the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth lines of said section the following words: "demonstrated his ability to read at sight and write simple sentences in the English language and perform simple arithmetical problems involving the fundamental processes of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, such educational test to be prepared and furnished by the superintendent of schools or the school committee of each city and town in the state or has furnished a certificate to that effect signed by any teacher in any of the public schools of the city or town in which such child resides, or by the principal of any approved private school," and by inserting in place thereof the following: 'furnished such issuing officer a certificate signed by the principal of the school last attended showing that the child can read and write correctly simple sentences in the English language and that he has satisfactorily completed the studies covered in the first six yearly grades of the elementary public schools, or their equivalent; in case such certificate cannot be obtained, then the officer issuing the work permit shall examine such child to determine whether he can meet the educational standard specified and shall file in his office a statement setting forth the result of such examination;'; so that, as amended, said section shall read as follows:

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Sec. 21. Child shall furnish certificate or submit to examination. No minor between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years shall be employed, permitted or suffered to work in any of the aforementioned occupations unless the person, firm or corporation employing such child procures and keeps on file accessible to any truant officer, factory inspector or other authorized officer charged with the enforcement of sections twenty to thirty-one, both inclusive, of this chapter, a work permit issued to said child by the superintendent of schools of the city or town in which the child resides, or by some person authorized by him in writing. The person authorized to issue a work permit shall not issue such permit until such child has furnished such issuing officer a certificate signed by the principal of the school last attended showing that the child can read and write correctly simple sentences in the English language and that he has satisfactorily completed the studies covered in the first six yearly grades of the elementary public schools, or their equivalent; in case such certificate cannot be obtained, then the officer issuing the work permit shall examine such child to determine whether he can meet the educational standard specified and shall file in his office a statement setting forth the result of such examination; nor until he has received, examined, approved and filed satisfactory evidence of age showing that the child is fourteen years old or upwards; such evidence shall consist of a certified copy of the town clerk's record of the birth of said child, or a certified copy of his baptismal record, showing the date of his birth and place of baptism, or a passport showing the date of birth. In the event of the minor being unable to produce the evidence heretofore mentioned, and the person authorized to issue the work permit being satisfied of that fact, the said work permit may be issued on other documentary evidence of age satisfactory to the person authorized to issue the work permit, provided said documentary evidence has been approved by the state commissioner of labor. The superintendent of schools, or the person authorized to issue such work permit may require, in doubtful cases, a certificate signed by a physician appointed by the school board, or, in case there is no school physician, from the medical officer of the board of health, stating that such child has been examined by him, and, in his opinion, has reached the normal development of a child of its age, and is in sufficiently sound health and physically able to perform the work which he intends to do. The state factory inspector, his deputy or agent, may require a similar certificate in doubtful cases of the minors employed under a work permit. A work permit when duly issued shall excuse such child from attendance at public schools; but no person shall issue such permit to any minor then in or about to enter his employment or the employment of the firm or corporation of which he is a member, stockholder, officer or employee.'

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Sec. 3. R. S., c. 49, § 23; relating to blank forms for work permits, filing of duplicates, surrender and cancellation, etc., amended. Section twenty-three of chapter forty-nine of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words "between the first and tenth days of each month" in lines eight and nine of said section and inserting in place thereof the following: 'within twenty-four hours of the time that said permit was issued,' so that said section, as amended, will read as follows:

'Sec. 23. Duplicate permits to be filed with commissioner of labor and industry within 24 hours after issuance. The blank work permit and other papers required in the two preceding sections shall be formulated by the commissioner of labor and industry, and furnished by him to the persons authorized to issue work permits. The forms of such permits and other papers shall be approved by the attorney general. Every work permit and every vacation permit shall be made out in duplicate. All duplicates, accompanied by the original papers on which such permits were issued, shall be forwarded to the department of labor and industry, by the officer issuing same, within twenty-four hours of the time that said permit was issued. Said department shall examine said papers and promptly return them to the officer who sent them. Said original papers upon which said permits were issued shall be filed by said officer and preserved for such time as said permits are outstanding, or until the minor arrives at the age of sixteen. They shall be at all times accessible to the commissioner of labor and industry or any authorized agent of his department. Said officer shall return to said child all papers with him filed in proof of age, upon a surrender of the work permit. All permits thus surrendered shall be marked cancelled by the officer receiving them. Whenever there is reason to believe that a work permit was improperly issued the commissioner of labor and industry, and state factory inspector, his deputy or agent, shall notify the local superintendent of schools of the place in which said certificate was issued. The local superintendent shall cancel such permit when directed so to do by the commissioner of labor and industry.'

Approved April 4, 1919.

Chapter 191.

An Act to Amend Chapter Three Hundred and Fifty of the Public Laws of Nineteen Hundred and Fifteen, Relating to the Employment of Women and Minors.

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

1915, c. 350, § 2; relating to employment of children under sixteen years of age, amended. Section two of chapter three hundred and fifty of the public laws of nineteen hundred and fifteen is hereby amended by inserting after the word "act" in line three of said section the following: 'or in any