

HOUSE No. 1419

By Mr. Gifford of Milton, petition of Allan E. Gifford and others for legislation relative to the forty-eight hour law for women and children in industry. Labor and Industries.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FORTY-EIGHT HOUR LAW, SO CALLED, FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN INDUSTRY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section fifty-six of chapter one hundred and forty-
2 nine of the General Laws, as most recently amended
3 by chapter three hundred and seventy-seven of the
4 acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-nine, is hereby
5 further amended by striking out the first sentence
6 and inserting in place thereof the following:—

7 No child and no woman shall be employed or per-
8 mitted to work in, or in connection with, any factory
9 or workshop, or any manufacturing, mercantile or
10 mechanical establishment, telegraph office or tele-
11 phone exchange, or any express or transportation
12 company, or in any private club, or any office, letter
13 shop or financial institution, or any laundry, hotel,
14 manicuring or hair dressing establishment, or any
15 motion picture or other theatre or any other place of
16 amusement, or any garage, or be employed as an ele-

17 vator operator, or as a switchboard operator in a
18 private exchange, more than nine hours in any one
19 day, and, except as to hotels, transportation or tele-
20 phone companies, if the work so performed by such
21 a child or woman in one day is not continuous, but
22 is divided into two or more periods, the work of such
23 child or woman shall be so arranged that all such
24 periods of work shall fall within a period of not ex-
25 ceeding ten consecutive hours; and in no case shall
26 the hours of labor exceed forty-eight in a week, ex-
27 cept that in manufacturing establishments or hotels
28 where the employment is determined by the depart-
29 ment to be by seasons, the number of such hours in
30 any week may exceed forty-eight, but not fifty-two,
31 provided that the total number of such hours in any
32 year shall not exceed an average of forty-eight hours
33 a week for the whole year, excluding Sundays and
34 holidays; and if any child or woman shall be employed
35 or permitted to work in more than one such place,
36 the total number of hours of such employment shall
37 not exceed forty-eight hours in any one week.