

# HOUSE . . . . No. 2089

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By Mr. Vaughan of Belmont, petition of Jarvis Hunt relative to the suspension of certain provisions of the labor laws relating to the hours of employment of women and children in the manufacture of textile goods and to their meal periods. Labor and Industries.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE LABOR LAWS RELATING TO THE HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE MANUFACTURE OF TEXTILE GOODS, AND TO THEIR MEAL PERIODS.

1 *Whereas*, The threat of competition in the textile  
2 industry in this commonwealth is such that the  
3 immediate taking effect of this act is required, there-  
4 fore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law,  
5 necessary for the immediate preservation of the  
6 public convenience.

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

1 The acts of nineteen hundred and forty-six are  
2 hereby amended by striking out chapter one hundred  
3 and twenty-seven and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following:—

5 No male under eighteen and no female shall be  
6 employed in the manufacture of textile goods before

7 six o'clock in the morning or after eleven o'clock in  
8 the evening. No male under eighteen and no female  
9 shall be employed in any establishment wherein the  
10 manufacture of textile goods is carried on, while run  
11 on the basis of more than one shift, for more than  
12 six hours at one time without an interval of at least  
13 thirty minutes for a meal, but he or she may be  
14 employed therein for not more than six and one half  
15 hours at one time if such employment ends not later  
16 than one o'clock in the afternoon and if he or she is  
17 then dismissed from such establishment for the re-  
18 mainder of the day, or for not more than seven and  
19 one half hours at one time if he or she is allowed  
20 sufficient opportunity for eating a lunch during the  
21 continuance of such employment and if such em-  
22 ployment ends not later than two o'clock in the  
23 afternoon and he or she is then dismissed from such  
24 establishment for the remainder of the day. Any  
25 employer, superintendent, overseer, agent or other  
26 person who violates any provision of this act shall be  
27 punished for a first offence by a fine of not less than  
28 fifty nor more than one hundred dollars, and for a  
29 subsequent offence by a fine of not less than one  
30 hundred nor more than two hundred dollars or by  
31 imprisonment for not more than two months, or both.  
32 This act shall remain in effect until April first, nine-  
33 teen hundred and forty-seven, and until said date  
34 the provisions of sections fifty-nine and sixty-six of  
35 chapter one hundred and forty-nine of the General  
36 Laws shall not apply in the case of the manufacture  
37 of textile goods, and the provisions of section one  
38 hundred of said chapter, except so far as applicable  
39 in the case of establishments run on a one shift basis,  
40 shall not apply in the case of the manufacture of  
41 such goods.