

HOUSE No. 543

By Mr. Campbell of Medford, petition of the Massachusetts Department of Public Works Council for legislation to establish a five day week for persons employed by the Commonwealth. Public Service.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FIVE DAY WEEK, SO CALLED,
FOR PERSONS EMPLOYED BY THE COMMONWEALTH.

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 1. Chapter 149 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out section 30, as most
3 recently amended by section 1 of chapter 367 of the
4 acts of 1936, and inserting in place thereof the follow-
5 ing:—

6 *Section 30.* The service of all laborers, workmen
7 and mechanics now or hereafter employed by any
8 county or any town which, by vote of the city council,
9 or of the voters at a town meeting, accepts this sec-
10 tion or has accepted section one of chapter two hun-
11 dred and forty of the General Acts of nineteen hun-
12 dred and sixteen, or by any contractor or sub-con-
13 tractor for or upon any public works of any county

14 or of any such town is hereby restricted to eight
15 hours in any one day, to forty-eight hours in any one
16 week, and to six days in any one week. No officer of
17 any county or of any such town, no such contractor
18 or sub-contractor or other person whose duty it is to
19 employ, direct or control the service of such labor-
20 ers, workmen or mechanics shall require or permit any
21 such laborer, workman of mechanic to work more
22 than eight hours in any one day, or more than forty-
23 eight hours in any one week, or more than six days
24 in any one week, except in cases of extraordinary
25 emergency.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 149 of the General Laws
2 is hereby further amended by inserting after said
3 section 30, the following new section: —

4 *Section 30A.* Except as hereinafter provided, the
5 service of all persons employed in any capacity by
6 the commonwealth is hereby restricted to eight hours
7 out of nine consecutive hours in any one day, and to
8 forty hours in any one week, without any reduction
9 in total weekly wages now being paid. The provisions
10 of this section shall not be deemed to require any in-
11 crease in the hours of work of persons now regularly
12 employed by the commonwealth whose regular work-
13 ing hours are less than said maximum restrictions, nor
14 to prohibit the present or future employment of any
15 person for more or less than eight hours in any one
16 day, or forty hours in any one week; provided, that
17 any person working for more than eight hours in any
18 one day, shall be paid for each extra hour at the rate of
19 one and one half times the prevailing hourly rate, or
20 at the rate of one and one half times one fortieth of
21 his regular weekly wages, and provided, also, that no

22 person shall be in any way prejudiced or penalized
23 for failing or refusing to work any hours in excess of
24 the maximum restrictions hereby imposed. No change
25 in the total weekly wages of laborers, workmen and
26 mechanics shall take place as a result of this section.

