

HOUSE No. 1752

By Mr. Boot of Lynn, petition of Harold J. Hanlon for legislation increasing further certain weekly benefits under the workmen's compensation law. Labor and Industries.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND FURTHER INCREASING CERTAIN WEEKLY BENEFITS UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW.

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. Whereas it is recognized that the cost
2 of the necessaries of life has increased greatly in the
3 past several years; and whereas many citizens of the
4 commonwealth who receive weekly benefits under the
5 workmen's compensation law are unable to maintain
6 health and decency on the benefits allowable under
7 the workmen's compensation law, as of the date their
8 personal injuries occurred; and whereas this condi-
9 tion creates a grave danger to the public health and
10 safety of all the inhabitants of the commonwealth,
11 therefore, acting under the police power and other
12 powers of this commonwealth, it is hereby declared
13 that an emergency exists.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 152 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out section 34, as most

3 recently amended by chapter 665 of the acts of 1947,
4 and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 34.* While the incapacity for work result-
6 ing from the injury is total, the insurer shall pay the
7 injured employee a weekly compensation equal to
8 two thirds of his average weekly wages, but not more
9 than thirty-five dollars nor less than twenty-five dol-
10 lars a week unless the weekly wages of the injured em-
11 ployee are less than eighteen dollars, in which case
12 said weekly compensation shall be equal to his aver-
13 age weekly wages but in no event less than fifteen
14 dollars weekly; provided, that the amount does not
15 exceed ten thousand dollars.

1 SECTION 3. Section 34A of said chapter 152, as
2 most recently amended by chapter 321 of the acts
3 of 1946, is hereby amended by striking out the first
4 paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following
5 paragraph:—

6 *Section 34A.* While the incapacity for work re-
7 sulting from the injury is both permanent and total
8 the insurer shall pay to the injured employee, follow-
9 ing payment of the maximum amount of compensa-
10 tion provided in sections thirty-four and thirty-five,
11 or either of them, a weekly compensation equal to
12 two thirds of the average weekly wages, but not more
13 than thirty-five dollars nor less than twenty-five dol-
14 lars during the continuance of such permanent and
15 total incapacity. Application for payments under this
16 section may be made by an injured employee before
17 he has received the maximum compensation to which
18 he is or may be entitled under the aforesaid sections.

1 SECTION 4. Said chapter 152 is hereby further
2 amended by striking out section 35, as most recently

3 amended by said chapter 321, and inserting in place
4 thereof, the following section:—

5 *Section 35.* While the incapacity for work resulting
6 from the injury is partial, the insurer shall pay the
7 injured employee a weekly compensation equal to the
8 entire difference between his average weekly wage
9 before the injury and the average weekly wage he is
10 able to earn thereafter, but not more than thirty-five
11 dollars a week; and the amount of such compensation
12 shall not be more than ten thousand dollars.

1 SECTION 5. This act shall apply not only in cases
2 of personal injuries occurring on or after its effective
3 date, but also shall apply only to payments after its
4 effective date in cases of personal injuries occurring
5 before its effective date where the injured employee
6 is receiving weekly compensation on said effective
7 date or shall receive weekly compensation at any
8 time thereafter, whether under an agreement approved
9 by the department, or under a decision of a member
10 of the department or of the reviewing board, or under
11 a decree of the superior court or of the supreme
12 judicial court, notwithstanding any provisions of any
13 other section of the workmen's compensation law, as
14 amended.

1 SECTION 6. If for any reason any section of this
2 chapter is declared unconstitutional, it shall not
3 affect the remaining portions.

The first of these is the fact that the British government had been in a state of financial distress since the end of the American Revolution. This was due to a variety of factors, including the high cost of the war and the need to pay off the national debt. The government had to raise money in a variety of ways, including by selling off land and by borrowing from foreign countries. This led to a period of high inflation and a loss of confidence in the government.

The second factor was the need to rebuild the economy. The war had destroyed much of the infrastructure and the economy was in a state of collapse. The government had to take steps to rebuild the economy and to create jobs for the unemployed. This was done through a variety of measures, including the establishment of new industries and the provision of government subsidies.

The third factor was the need to reform the government. The British government had been in a state of political crisis since the end of the American Revolution. The government had to take steps to reform the government and to create a more stable political system. This was done through a variety of measures, including the establishment of a new constitution and the reform of the judiciary.

The fourth factor was the need to reform the legal system. The British legal system had been in a state of crisis since the end of the American Revolution. The government had to take steps to reform the legal system and to create a more efficient and effective legal system. This was done through a variety of measures, including the establishment of a new court system and the reform of the legal profession.

The fifth factor was the need to reform the education system. The British education system had been in a state of crisis since the end of the American Revolution. The government had to take steps to reform the education system and to create a more effective and efficient education system. This was done through a variety of measures, including the establishment of new schools and the reform of the curriculum.

The sixth factor was the need to reform the military. The British military had been in a state of crisis since the end of the American Revolution. The government had to take steps to reform the military and to create a more effective and efficient military. This was done through a variety of measures, including the establishment of a new military structure and the reform of the military's operations.

The seventh factor was the need to reform the economy. The British economy had been in a state of crisis since the end of the American Revolution. The government had to take steps to reform the economy and to create a more effective and efficient economy. This was done through a variety of measures, including the establishment of new industries and the reform of the financial system.

The eighth factor was the need to reform the social system. The British social system had been in a state of crisis since the end of the American Revolution. The government had to take steps to reform the social system and to create a more effective and efficient social system. This was done through a variety of measures, including the establishment of new social programs and the reform of the social structure.