
By Mr. O'Dea of Lowell, petition of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor and James L. O'Dea, Jr., for legislation to regulate industrial homework. Labor and Industries.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO REGULATE INDUSTRIAL HOMEWORK

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. The following two new sentences are in-
2 serted in new section 146A of chapter 749 of the General
3 Laws, as inserted by section 5 of chapter 764 of the
4 acts of 1955: — Said place of employment shall employ
5 persons on operations the same as or similar to the pro-
6 posed homework operations. Furthermore, no industrial
7 homework shall be given out if any of the employees of
8 the said employer who are qualified to do the work in-
9 volved are unemployed or on layoff from said place of
10 employment.

1 SECTION 2. The first paragraph of section 147 of
2 chapter 149, as most recently amended by section 6 of
3 chapter 764 of the acts of 1955, is hereby further amended
4 by adding the following two new sentences: — No per-
5 mit shall be granted by the commissioner to any em-
6 ployer at whose plant there is a "labor dispute," as
7 that term is defined in section twenty C, nor shall any
8 permit be given for work on "struck goods." If any
9 permit is outstanding or previously issued, the commis-
10 sioner shall revoke or suspend any such permit if he

11 finds that the employer is engaged in a labor dispute or
12 is processing or transporting "struck goods."

1 SECTION 3. Section 147A of said chapter 149, as most
2 recently amended by section 8 of chapter 764 of the
3 acts of 1955, is hereby further amended by striking out
4 said section 147A and inserting in its place the following
5 new section: —

6 *Section 147A.* No person shall engage in industrial
7 homework within the commonwealth unless he has in
8 his possession a valid certificate, issued to him by the
9 commissioner under authority of this section, called
10 a homeworker's certificate. Such homeworker's cer-
11 tificate may be issued only to a person who because of
12 age or other disability is unable to adjust to factory em-
13 ployment or whose services are essential in his home to
14 care for an invalid or for a child or children under seven
15 years of age. Such certificate shall be issued by the
16 commissioner without cost, and shall be valid for a
17 period of one year from the date of its issuance, unless
18 sooner revoked or suspended. Application for such
19 certificate shall be made in such form as the commis-
20 sioner may from time to time by rule or regulation pre-
21 scribe. Such certificate shall be valid only for work
22 performed by the applicant himself in his own home.

23 No homeworker's certificate shall be issued to any
24 person under the age of sixteen years, or to any person
25 suffering from an infectious, contagious or communicable
26 disease, or living in a home that is not clean, sanitary
27 and free from infectious, contagious or communicable
28 disease.

29 The commissioner may revoke or suspend any home-
30 worker's certificate if he finds that the holder thereof
31 is performing industrial homework contrary to the con-
32 ditions under which the certificate was issued or in
33 violation of any pertinent provision of sections one
34 hundred and forty-four to one hundred and forty-seven
35 H, inclusive, or has permitted any person not holding
36 a valid homeworker's certificate to assist him in per-
37 forming his industrial homework.

38 No certificate shall be granted by the commissioner
39 to any person for work to be done for an employer who
40 is engaged or interested in a "labor dispute", as that
41 term is defined in section twenty C, or who is processing
42 of transporting "struck goods." If a certificate has
43 previously been issued, the commissioner shall revoke
44 or suspend such homeworke's certificate if he finds that
45 the holder thereof is performing work for an employer
46 engaged in a "labor dispute" or working on "struck
47 goods."

