

HOUSE No. 298

By Mr. Normandin of New Bedford, petition of Fred W. Steele for legislation to authorize the Commissioner of Labor and Industries to suspend the operation of certain labor laws affecting women and children. Labor and Industries.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES TO SUSPEND THE OPERATION OF CERTAIN LABOR LAWS.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to
2 defeat its purpose, which is to authorize the commissioner of
3 labor and industries to grant exemptions from the employ-
4 ment statutes when necessary to aid industry, therefore it is
5 declared to be an emergency law necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the 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 commissioner of labor and industries is hereby authorized,
2 in conformity with Article XX of Part the First of the Constitu-
3 tion of the Commonwealth, to suspend until July first, nineteen
4 hundred and fifty-nine, the application or operation of any pro-
5 vision of chapter one hundred and forty-nine of the General Laws
6 or of any rule or regulation made thereunder, regulating, limiting
7 or prohibiting the employment of women, or of minors over the
8 age of sixteen, or both. The commissioner shall exercise this
9 authority when he finds, after opportunity has been given to
10 interested parties to be heard, that an emergency exists or that
11 conditions of hardship in an industry, branch of an industry, or
12 individual establishment require or justify the suspension of any
13 provision of such laws, rules or regulations. Suspensions issued

14 by the commissioner shall prescribe, and may be either granted or
15 limited to, one or more particular departments, operations or
16 occupations within an establishment, or a particular industry
17 or branch of an industry. The commissioner shall appoint indus-
18 try advisory committees, on which employers and employees
19 shall be equally represented, to consult and advise with him in
20 matters relating to the suspensions authorized by this act.