

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 61

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By Mr. Meehan of Lawrence, petition of James P. Meehan that laborers be included within the provisions of law relative to wages to be paid in construction and alteration of public works. Public Service.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Two.

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An Act relative to the Wages of Laborers employed in the Construction, Addition to or Alteration of Certain Public Works.

*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 twenty-six of chapter one hundred and  
2 forty-nine of the General Laws, as amended by chap-  
3 ter three hundred and seventy-seven of the acts of  
4 nineteen hundred and thirty-one, is hereby further  
5 amended by inserting after the word "mechanics"  
6 in the sixteenth line the word: —, laborers, — so as  
7 to read as follows: — *Section 26.* In the employ-  
8 ment of mechanics, teamsters and laborers in the  
9 construction, addition to and alteration of public  
10 works by the commonwealth, or by a county, town  
11 or district, or by persons contracting therewith for  
12 such construction, addition to and alteration of pub-  
13 lic works, preference shall first be given to citizens  
14 of the commonwealth who have served in the army

15 or navy of the United States in time of war and  
16 have been honorably discharged therefrom or re-  
17 leased from active duty therein, and who are quali-  
18 fied to perform the work to which the employment  
19 relates; and secondly, to citizens of the common-  
20 wealth generally, and, if they cannot be obtained in  
21 sufficient numbers, then to citizens of the United  
22 States, and every contract for such work shall con-  
23 tain a provision to this effect. The wages for a  
24 day's work paid to mechanics, laborers and team-  
25 sters employed in the construction, addition to or  
26 alteration of public works as aforesaid shall be not  
27 less than the customary and prevailing rate of wages  
28 for a day's work in the same trade or occupation in  
29 the locality where such public works are under con-  
30 struction or being added to or altered; provided, that  
31 no town in the construction, addition to or alteration  
32 of public works shall be required to give preference  
33 to veterans, not residents of such town, over citizens  
34 thereof. This section shall also apply to regular em-  
35 ployees of the commonwealth or of a county, town  
36 or district when such employees are employed in the  
37 construction, addition to and alteration of public  
38 works for which special appropriations are provided.  
39 Any person or contractor who knowingly and wil-  
40 fully violates this section shall be punished by a fine  
41 of not more than one hundred dollars.



