

HOUSE No. 64.

Bill accompanying the petition of Thomas L. Davis for legislation to make eight hours a maximum days work for public employees. Labor, January 12.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Four.

AN ACT

To Establish Eight Hours as a Day's Work for Public Employees.

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. Eight hours shall constitute a day's work
2 for all employees except nurses in hospitals now em-
3 ployed, or who may hereafter be employed, by or on
4 behalf of the Commonwealth, or any county therein, or
5 any city or town which has accepted the provisions of
6 section twenty of chapter one hundred and six of the
7 Revised Laws; but in cases where a Saturday half-holiday
8 is given the hours of labor upon the other working days
9 of the week may be increased sufficiently to make a total
10 of forty-eight hours for the week's work.

1 SECTION 2. Each contract to which the state or a
2 municipal corporation is a party which may involve the
3 employment of employees, except nurses in hospitals,
4 shall contain a stipulation that employees in the employ
5 of the contractor, sub-contractor or other person doing
6 or contracting to do the whole or a part of the work
7 contemplated by the contract shall be permitted or
8 required to work more than eight hours in any one
9 calendar day except in cases of extraordinary emergency
10 caused by fire, flood or danger to life or property.
11 The wages to be paid for a legal day's work as herein-
12 before defined to all classes of such employees, except
13 nurses in hospitals, upon all such public work shall not
14 be less than the prevailing rate for a day's work in the
15 same trade or occupation in the locality within the state
16 where such public work is situated. Each contract
17 hereafter made shall contain a stipulation that each such
18 employee employed by such contractor, sub-contractor
19 or other person upon such public work shall receive
20 such wages herein provided for.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall apply to all persons en-
2 gaged upon any works which are or are intended to be
3 the property of the Commonwealth, or of any county
4 therein, or of any city or town which has accepted the
5 provisions of section twenty of chapter one hundred and
6 six of the Revised Laws, whether such persons are em-
7 ployed by public authority or by a contractor or other
8 private person.

1 SECTION 4. Any agent or official of the Common-
2 wealth or of any county, city or town who violates any
3 provision of this act by employing any person to work
4 for longer hours or at a lower rate of pay than is pro-

5 vided for in this act, shall be subject to a penalty of fifty
6 dollars for each offence. The members of the district
7 police of the Commonwealth shall enforce the provisions
8 of this act.

1 SECTION 5. The provisions of this act shall not apply
2 to or affect contractors or sub-contractors for work for
3 which contracts have been entered into prior to the
4 passage of this act.

1 SECTION 6. So much of any act as is inconsistent
2 herewith is hereby repealed.

1 SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

