

SENATE No. 142

To accompany the petition of Charles A. Littlefield and others for legislation to provide wages for the maintenance of the supernumerary members of the industrial army of the commonwealth. Labor.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine.

AN ACT

To provide Wages for the Maintenance of the Supernumerary Members of the Industrial Army of the Commonwealth.

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 chief of the bureau of statistics
2 of labor shall employ in his department a clerk
3 who shall have charge of a branch of labor to be
4 known as "The Necessary Supernumerary Force
5 of the Industrial Army of the State of Massachu-
6 setts"; said clerk to draw a salary of two thou-
7 sand dollars per year, and he may expend such
8 a sum as shall be required to procure necessary
9 blanks and for travel, incidental, clerical and con-

10 tingent expenses necessary to properly carry out
11 this act, providing for the enumeration and classi-
12 fication of the required supernumerary labor force
13 of Massachusetts.

1 SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the clerk in
2 charge of the above department of labor to present
3 to each employer of labor within the confines of
4 the state of Massachusetts where in his opinion
5 or from knowledge a supernumerary force of
6 workers is necessary to the successful operation of
7 such industry a prepared form which must be
8 returned to the bureau of labor statistics within
9 thirty days of its receipt filled out as required,
10 fully setting forth the following:—First, the
11 average number of hands employed. Second, their
12 sex, trade and wages paid in each trade—as
13 far as possible. Third, the minimum number of
14 spare hands it is considered imperative to have
15 report each working day to take possession of a
16 possible job that might unexpectedly arise through
17 the death, sickness or absence from any cause of
18 any of the regular hands. The above mentioned
19 returns must be made under oath or affirmation.

1 SECTION 3. As the supernumerary workers are
2 in many cases just as indispensable to the suc-
3 cessful operation of certain industries as are the
4 regular workers it is but just that such industries
5 should provide a source of income for the trained
6 and ready waiting workers. And, therefore, this
7 act shall render all employers of labor in the state
8 of Massachusetts liable for a one half wage to all
9 supernumerary help who are instructed or encour-

10 aged to report for duty and are not given work
11 for the day upon which they so report. The amount
12 of supernumerary wage to be determined by the
13 full wage paid for similar services in the industrial
14 plant at which the supernumerary in question re-
15 ports for duty.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect six months
2 from the date of its enactment.

