

HOUSE No. 294.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 21, 1886.

The Committee on Labor, to whom was referred the petitions of George D. Chamberlain and others, that a law be enacted to prevent the employment of minors and women in mercantile establishments for more than ten hours in any one day; also the remonstrance of J. H. Bowker and others against the passage of such a law, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

W. N. DAVENPORT.

Messrs. FEDERHEN of Quincy, and PARKMAN of Boston, of the House, dissent.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-six.

AN ACT

Relating to the Employment of Minors and Women
in Mercantile Establishments.

*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. No minor under eighteen years of
2 age, and no woman, shall be employed in any
3 mercantile establishment more than ten hours in
4 any one day.

1 SECT. 2. Whoever, either for himself, or as
2 superintendent, overseer or agent for another,
3 employs, or has in his employment, any person in
4 violation of the provisions of the preceding sec-
5 tion, or who fails to post the notice required in
6 section third, and any parent or guardian who
7 permits any minor under his charge to be so em-
8 ployed, shall be punished by a fine of not less
9 than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars for
10 each offence. Said penalty shall extend to cor-

11 porations. A certificate of age of a minor, made
12 and sworn to by him, or by his parent or guar-
13 dian, at the time of his employment in a mercan-
14 tile establishment, shall be *prima facie* evidence
15 of his age in any trial for a violation of the pre-
16 ceding section.

1 SECT. 3. Every employer shall post in one or
2 more conspicuous places, within range of the eye,
3 in the establishment where such persons are em-
4 ployed, a printed notice, which shall be approved
5 by the chief of district police, stating the time of
6 beginning work in the morning, and the time of
7 stopping work in the evening, so that no such
8 person shall exceed ten hours' work in any one
9 day; and the employment of any such person for
10 a longer time than that so stated in such notice
11 shall be deemed a violation of this act.

1 SECT. 4. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent
2 herewith are hereby repealed.

1 SECT. 5. This act shall take effect on the first
2 day of July, eighteen hundred and eighty-six.

