

# SENATE . . . . No. 35.

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SENATE, Jan. 29, 1900.

[Introduced on leave by Senator Chamberlain of Plymouth. Labor.]

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred.

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### AN ACT

#### Relative to the Employment of Children.

*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. Section two of chapter four hun-  
2 dred and ninety-four of the acts of the year eigh-  
3 teen hundred and ninety-eight is hereby amended  
4 by inserting after the word "establishment" in  
5 the second and third lines the words: — during the  
6 hours when the public schools of the town or city  
7 in which he resides are in session, — so as to  
8 read: —

9 Section 2. No child under sixteen years of  
10 age shall be employed in any factory, workshop  
11 or mercantile establishment during the hours when

12 the public schools of the town or city in which he  
13 resides are in session unless the person or corpo-  
14 ration employing him procures and keeps on file  
15 and accessible to the truant officers of the town  
16 or city, and to the district police and inspectors  
17 of factories, an age and schooling certificate as  
18 hereinafter prescribed, and keeps two complete  
19 lists of all such children employed therein, one on  
20 file and one conspicuously posted near the princi-  
21 pal entrance of the building in which such chil-  
22 dren are employed, and also keeps on file a  
23 complete list, and sends to the superintendent  
24 of schools, or, where there is no superintendent,  
25 to the school committee, the names of all minors  
26 employed therein who cannot read at sight and  
27 write legibly simple sentences in the English  
28 language.

1 SECTION 2. Section five of chapter four hun-  
2 dred and ninety-four of the acts of the year  
3 eighteen hundred and ninety-eight is hereby  
4 amended by striking out all the words between  
5 the word "that" in the first line after the "form"  
6 heading "age and schooling certificate, laws of  
7 eighteen hundred and ninety-eight," and the sen-  
8 tence beginning "I hereby certify that," in line  
9 fourteen thereof, and inserting in place thereof  
10 the following: — by the school register, last school  
11 census, certificate of baptism, the register of birth  
12 of the town or city clerk, or upon the oath of the  
13 father, mother, guardian or custodian, [name of  
14 child], height [feet and inches], complexion [fair

15 or dark], hair [color], is now [number of years  
16 and months old], and, — so as to read: —

17 *Section 5.* The age and schooling certificate  
18 of a child under sixteen years of age shall not be  
19 approved and signed until he presents to the per-  
20 son authorized to approve and sign the same an  
21 employment ticket as hereinafter prescribed, duly  
22 filled out and signed. A duplicate of each age and  
23 schooling certificate shall be filled out and shall  
24 be kept on file by the school committee. Any  
25 explanatory matter may be printed with such cer-  
26 tificate in the discretion of the school committee  
27 or superintendent of schools. The employment  
28 ticket and the age and schooling certificate shall  
29 be separately printed, and shall be filled out,  
30 signed, and held or surrendered, as indicated in  
31 the following forms: —

EMPLOYMENT TICKET, LAWS OF EIGHTEEN  
HUNDRED AND NINETY-EIGHT.

32 When [name of child], height [feet and inches],  
33 complexion [fair or dark], hair [color], presents  
34 an age and schooling certificate duly signed, I  
35 intend to employ [him or her].

(Signature of intending employer or agent.)

(Town or city and date.)

AGE AND SCHOOLING CERTIFICATE, LAWS OF  
EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-EIGHT.

36 This certifies that by the school register, last  
37 school census, certificate of baptism, the register  
38 of birth of the town or city clerk, or upon the

39 oath of the father, mother, guardian or custodian,  
40 [name of child], height [feet and inches], com-  
41 plexion [fair or dark], hair [color], is now  
42 [number of years and months old], and I hereby  
43 certify that [he or she] [can or cannot] read at  
44 sight and [can or cannot] write legibly simple  
45 sentences in the English language.

46 This certificate belongs to [name of child in  
47 whose behalf it is drawn], and is to be surren-  
48 dered to [him or her] whenever [he or she]  
49 leaves the service of the corporation or employer  
50 holding the same; but if not claimed by said child  
51 within thirty days from such time, it shall be re-  
52 turned to the superintendent of schools, or, where  
53 there is no superintendent of schools to the  
54 school committee.

(Signature of person authorized to approve and sign,  
with official character or authority.)

(Town or city and date.)

55 In the case of a child who cannot read at sight  
56 and write legibly simple sentences in the English  
57 language the certificate shall continue as follows,  
58 after the word "language": —

59 I hereby certify that [he or she] is regularly  
60 attending the [name] public evening school.  
61 This certificate shall continue in force only so  
62 long as the regular attendance of said child at  
63 the evening school is endorsed weekly by a  
64 teacher thereof.