

# HOUSE . . . . No. 976

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By Mr. Gilmartin of Fitchburg, petition of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (Local Union No. 30) for legislation to reduce hours of labor and increase the wages of certain employees of the Department of Mental Diseases. Public Service.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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### AN ACT TO REDUCE THE HOURS OF LABOR AND RAISE THE WAGES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES.

*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 hours of labor of ward attendants,  
2 ward nurses, industrial and occupational therapists  
3 and watchmen, and of laborers, workmen and me-  
4 chanics, and of employees in the kitchen, dining-room  
5 and domestic services, in the institutions of the de-  
6 partment of mental diseases of the commonwealth  
7 shall not exceed forty in each week. This section shall  
8 not prevent the superintendent or executive officer  
9 from requiring the services of any person in any emer-  
10 gency where the health or safety of patients would  
11 otherwise be endangered, nor shall it apply to the  
12 hours of labor of any person whose position entitles  
13 him to family maintenance as a part of his compen-  
14 sation.

1 SECTION 2. Employment of additional persons by  
2 reason of the enactment of section one of this act  
3 shall be restricted to persons who are citizens of the  
4 commonwealth.

1 SECTION 3. The minimum weekly wage for all em-  
2 ployees to which section one of this act applies shall  
3 be not less than fourteen dollars, plus maintenance  
4 as already provided.

1 SECTION 4. The wage provisions of section three  
2 of this act shall take effect retroactively beginning the  
3 first week in January, nineteen hundred and thirty-  
4 eight. The provision regarding hours of labor in sec-  
5 tion one of this act shall take effect six weeks after  
6 the act has been signed by the governor of the com-  
7 monwealth.