

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO "PROHIBIT THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER FIFTEEN YEARS OF AGE IN MINES, FACTORIES OR WORKSHOPS."

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa :

SECTION 1. That no child under the age of fifteen years shall be employed in any mine, 2 factory, or workshop in this State; and any parent or guardian who permits such employ- 3 ment shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction, be punished by a 4 fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding 5 thirty days.

SEC. 2. Any corporation, owner, agent, superintendent, overseer, or other person who 2 shall employ or permit to be employed any child in violation of this law, shall be deemed 3 guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than ten 4 dollars or more than one hundred dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail not less than 5 ten days or more than thirty days.

SEC. 3. That the Commissioner of Labor Statistics of this State, shall *ex-officio* so far as 2 this act provides, be inspector of mines, factories and workshops, whose duty it shall be to 3 enforce this law. He shall be empowered to visit and inspect, at all reasonable hours and 4 as often as practicable, the mines, factories and workshops in the State, and take with him 5 any peace officer, and examine under oath any person who is employed in such mine, factory 6 or workshop, or who he shall believe to have been so employed within two months next preced- 7 ing. Any person testifying wilfully false shall be guilty of perjury and punished accord- 8 ingly. And every person who shall refuse to be examined, or who shall conceal or prevent 9 any person from appearing before or being examined by the inspector, or who shall prevent 10 or delay the admission of an inspector to any part of the mine, factory or workshop, shall 11 be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction, be punished by a fine of not 12 less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or be committed to the 13 county jail not less than ten days nor more than thirty days. The sheriff of each county in 14 this State is hereby constituted sub-inspector, with the same power to act hereunder as the 15 inspector. It shall be the duty of the sub-inspector, whenever requested by the inspector to 16 visit the mines, factories and workshops in his county and ascertain whether the provisions

17 of this law are observed and duly report to such inspector. He shall also furnish in said
18 report all such information, relating to this law, as may be desired by the inspector.

SEC. 4. That the inspector or sub-inspector, if in doubt as to whether a child is under the
2 age of fifteen years, shall have the right to demand of the employer, parent, or guardian of
3 such child a sworn statement showing the exact age of said child ; and any such employer,
4 parent, or guardian, swearing falsely to such statement, shall be guilty of perjury and pun-
5 ished accordingly.

SEC. 5. If it shall be shown to the satisfaction of the inspector or sub-inspector, that a
2 child of over the age of twelve years is of sound physical health and whose services and
3 earnings are necessary to the maintenance and support of a widowed mother, or feeble and
4 aged parents, or that said child is an orphan and has no one upon whom to depend for sup-
5 port, the said inspector or sub-inspector shall issue a certificate so declaring ; and then in
6 that case, said child can lawfully be employed.

SEC. 6. Any corporation, owner, agent, superintendent, overseer, or other person, may de-
2 mand of any parent, guardian or other person, having control and charge of any child, a
3 sworn statement showing that said child is over fifteen years of age before employing the
4 same ; and the possession of such statement shall exonerate such corporation, owner, agent,
5 superintendent, overseer or other person from liability under this act.

SEC. 7. Any person shall have the right to lodge formal complaint for a violation of this
2 law with the county prosecuting attorney of the county in which the offense is committed,
3 whereupon it shall be the duty of this officer to prosecute such offender under this act.

SEC. 8. The inspector, sub-inspector, or any one authorized by either, shall post in the
2 mines, factories and workshops of this State a printed copy of the law now or hereafter to
3 be made in respect to the employment of children under fifteen years of age in mines,
4 factories and workshops, and if the owner, agent, superintendent, manager, or proprietor of
5 any mine, factory and workshop, or any person whomsoever, shall remove, destroy, or muti-
6 late the laws so posted, he shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more
7 than one hundred dollars or be imprisoned in the county jail not more than thirty days.

SEC. 9. The inspector shall report biennially to the Governor on or before the fifteenth
2 day of August preceeding each regular meeting of the General Assembly, accompanying
3 said report with such suggestions and recommendations as he may deem wise and proper.
4 The said report shall be printed in the biennial report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics
5 for this State, and contain a full copy of this law.

SEC. 10. That all necessary expense incurred by said inspector in the discharge of his
2 duties shall be paid from the funds of the State upon the presentation of proper vouchers
3 of the same; provided, that not more than five hundred dollars shall be expended by him

4 in any one year. The salary of State Inspector in addition to that of Commissioner of
5 Labor Statistics, shall be five hundred dollars per annum.

Sec. 11. The board of Supervisors of the respective counties shall allow each sub-
2 inspector five dollars for each report made hereunder and mileage the same as in the service
3 of criminal process in the District Courts of this State.