

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
Washington

MR. ANDREWS' STATEMENT ON BARDEN AMENDMENTS

In answer to a question about the Barden Amendments at his Press Conference today (Thursday), Administrator Elmer F. Andrews of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, read this statement:

"The Subcommittee considering amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act has invited me to confer with them tomorrow, and I believe that Congressman Barden conferred with them today. I have also read Congressman Barden's statement in which he makes it clear he will stand firm as a matter of principle and insist on his amendments which are merely a renewal of the 'dime-an-hour' bloc's proposal for wholesale exclusion of needy workers from the Act.

"Five months ago we attempted to propose carefully drafted amendments to the Act which included many concessions and were based on meager experience. Congressman Barden's amendments were the answer. In view of the position taken by Mr. Barden and the interests he represents, it appears that impassable differences exist and it seems clear that carefully considered amendment of the Act in the interests of wage earners, employers and the public interest can hardly be hoped for at this time."

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