## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION Washington, D. C.

FURTHER ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION FACILITATES WAGE-HOUR ACTIVITY

The granting of full power and authority to seven regional and acting regional directors who may act as his representatives in issuing certificates to handicapped workers was announced today by Colonel Philip B. Fleming, Administrator, Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor.

These directors may, by this administrative order, grant or deny applications for special certificates for the employment of handicapped workers, sign, issue and cancel special certificates authorizing the employment of such workers pursuant to the provisions of Section 14 of the Fair Labor Standards Act. (Federal Register, August 23, 1940.)

This administrative order affects Regions II (New York City), III (Philadelphia), V (Richmond), VII (Atlanta), XIII (Kansas City), XIV (Dallas), and XV (San Francisco), with headquarters in the cities indicated.

"This additional administrative decentralization will facilitate the application of this provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act and is another step in the policy which has been in operation for some time," Colonel Fleming commented.

"We want every bona fide handicapped person whose job may be endangered by the minimum wage provision to have a certificate. Congress wrote this provision in the act so that employees would not be dropped because of a physical or mental handicap or because of age. We have made every effort in Washington to be prompt in handling these exceptions, but delegation of this authority to the field should expedite their handling and give the examiner a better opportunity to determine whether the application is made by a person who is handicapped by a real disability."