

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SPECIAL INDUSTRY  
COMMITTEE FOR PUERTO RICO FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING  
EVIDENCE TO BE CONSIDERED IN RECOMMENDING MINIMUM WAGE  
RATES FOR EMPLOYEES IN PUERTO RICO ENGAGED IN INDUSTRIES  
OTHER THAN THE NEEDLEWORK, SUGAR, AND LEAF TOBACCO  
INDUSTRIES.

In conformity with the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, 52 Stat. 1060, as amended by Section 3(c), (d), (e) and (f) Public Resolution No. 83, 76th Congress, Chapter 432--3rd Session, approved June 26, 1940, and with Section 511.11 of Part 511 of the Rules and Regulations issued pursuant thereto, notice is hereby given to all interested persons that a public hearing will be held beginning February 18, 1941 at 10 A.M. in Room 3229 U. S. Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C., for the purpose of receiving evidence to be considered by the Special Industry Committee for Puerto Rico in determining the highest minimum wage rates for employees in Puerto Rico in industries other than the needlework industries (which do not include men's clothing), the sugar industry, and the leaf tobacco industry, which, having due regard to economic and competitive conditions, will not substantially curtail employment and will not give any industry in Puerto Rico a competitive advantage over any industry in the United States outside of Puerto Rico.

The Special Industry Committee for Puerto Rico was created by Administrative Order No. 58. It is charged, in accordance with the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended and Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, with the duty of investigating conditions in the industries of Puerto Rico and of recommending to the Administrator minimum wage rates which may be lower than 30 cents but not higher than 40 cents per hour for all employees in Puerto Rico who within the meaning of said Act are "engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce," excepting employees exempted by the provisions of Section 13(a) and employees coming under the provisions of Section 14. Before any minimum wage rates recommended by the Committee are made effective, a public hearing will be held pursuant to Section 8 of the Act either in Puerto Rico or in Continental United States, at which interested persons will have an opportunity to present evidence on the questions whether such rates, if made effective, would substantially curtail employment in Puerto Rico or would give any industry in Puerto Rico a competitive advantage over any industry in the United States outside of Puerto Rico.

Administrative Order No. 58 directed the Special Industry Committee to proceed first to investigate conditions and to recommend to the Administrator minimum wage rates for employees in the needlework industries, and thereafter to investigate conditions respecting, and to recommend minimum wage rates for, such other employees as the Administrator may direct or, in the absence of such direction, as the Committee in its judgment shall determine. Pursuant to this direction the Committee on October 2, 1940, recommended to the Administrator minimum wage rates for employees in the eight divisions of the needlework :

industries and the Administrator on November 15, 1940, issued a wage order approving six of said recommendations and making no determination with respect to the other two, the leather glove and the fabric glove divisions, pending the adducing of further evidence thereon. At the hearing noticed herein the Committee will receive material and hear testimony relating only to employees in industries other than the needlework industries and the leaf tobacco and sugar industries upon which evidence will be received at a subsequent meeting of the Committee.


Any person who, in the opinion of the Committee or its duly authorized subcommittee, has a substantial interest in the proceeding and is prepared to present material pertinent to the question under consideration, may appear on his own behalf or on behalf of any other person. Persons wishing to appear are requested to file at the office of the Industry Committee Branch of the Wage and Hour Division of the United States Department of Labor, U. S. Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C., not later than February 4, 1941, a notice of intention to appear containing the following information:

1. The name and address of the person appearing.
2. If he is appearing in a representative capacity, the name and address of the person or persons whom, or organization which, he is representing.
3. A brief summary of the material intended to be presented.
4. The approximate length of time which his presentation will consume.

All testimony will be taken under oath and subject to reasonable cross examination by any interested person present. Testimony so received will be offered as evidence at the public hearing to be held by the Administrator on such minimum wage recommendations as the Special Industry Committee for Puerto Rico may make.

Written statements of persons who cannot appear personally will be considered by the Committee provided that twenty copies thereof are received not later than February 4, 1941, at the office of the Industry Committee Branch of the Wage and Hour Division of the United States Department of Labor, U. S. Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C. Any person appearing at the hearing who offers written material must submit twenty copies thereof.

Signed at Washington, D. C., this 17th day of January, 1941.

  
Francis J. Haas, Chairman  
Special Industry Committee for  
Puerto Rico