

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions
Washington 25, D. C.

SET HEARING JAN. 21 ON PROPOSAL TO INCREASE MINIMUM WAGE
IN UNIFORM CLOTHING INDUSTRY

A public hearing will be held on January 21, 1948, to consider a proposal to raise the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act minimum wage determination for the suit and coat branch of the uniform clothing industry from 60 cents an hour to 85 cents.

Scheduled by Wm. R. McComb, Administrator of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, U. S. Department of Labor, the hearing will open at 10 a.m. in Room 3428 of the Department of Labor Building, Washington, D. C.

The hearing will be held to permit interested persons to comment on a petition of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America requesting the increase, which recently was presented to Secretary of Labor L. B. Schwellenbach. Under provisions of the Public Contracts Act, which applies to suppliers of Government contracts for over \$10,000 in value, the Secretary makes minimum wage determinations on an industry or branch basis on evidence obtained at hearings conducted by the Administrator of the Act.

For purposes of minimum wage determinations under the Public Contracts Act, the suit and coat branch is that part of the men's clothing industry which manufactures men's civilian suits and overcoats, tailored-to-measure uniforms including the pants, uniform overcoats and uniform coats and tailored short jackets designed to take the place of regular Army issue coats, e.g., the "Eisenhower" jacket.

The union's petition also asks that the minimum wage for auxiliary workers in the industry branch be increased to 65 cents, from its present level of 40 cents. The Administrator, in addition, will consider the general subject of learners, the extent of their employment, and whether special provisions should be established for them.

Notice of intention to appear at the hearing may be filed with the Administrator through January 14. Written statements in lieu of appearances will be accepted.

Copies of the union's petition to the Secretary and of a recent survey of wages in the industry, as well as formal notice of the hearing, may be obtained from the Administrator.

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