

64TH CONGRESS,  
1ST SESSION.

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# H. R. 8234.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 7, 1916.

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interstate Commerce.

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## AN ACT

To prevent interstate commerce in the products of child labor, and  
for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3        That no producer, manufacturer, or dealer shall ship or de-  
4        liver for shipment in interstate commerce the product of any  
5        mine or quarry situated in the United States which has been  
6        produced, in whole or in part, by the labor of children under  
7        the age of sixteen years, or the product of any mill, cannery,  
8        workshop, factory, or manufacturing establishment situated  
9        in the United States which has been produced, in whole or in  
10       part, by the labor of children under the age of fourteen years  
11       or by the labor of children between the ages of fourteen years  
12       and sixteen years who work more than eight hours in any  
13       one day, or more than six days in any one week, or after the

1 hour of seven o'clock postmeridian, or before the hour of  
2 seven o'clock antemeridian.

3       SEC. 2. Proof of the employment within sixty days  
4 prior to the shipment of such product therefrom (first) in  
5 a mine or quarry of a child under the age of sixteen years,  
6 or (second) in a mill, cannery, workshop, factory, or manu-  
7 facturing establishment (a) of a child under the age of four-  
8 teen years, or (b) of a child between the ages of fourteen  
9 years and sixteen years for more than eight hours in any one  
10 day or more than six days in any one week, or after the hour  
11 of seven o'clock postmeridian, or before the hour of seven  
12 o'clock antemeridian shall be prima facie evidence that such  
13 product has been produced in whole or in part by the labor  
14 of such a child.

15       SEC. 3. That the Attorney General, the Secretary of  
16 Commerce, and the Secretary of Labor shall constitute a  
17 board to make and publish from time to time uniform rules  
18 and regulations for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

19       SEC. 4. That for the purpose of securing proper en-  
20 forcement of this Act the Secretary of Labor, or any person  
21 duly authorized by him, shall have authority to enter and in-  
22 spect at any time mines, quarries, mills, canneries, workshops,  
23 factories, manufacturing establishments and other places  
24 in which goods are produced or held for interstate commerce;  
25 and the Secretary of Labor shall have authority to employ

1 such assistance for the purposes of this Act as may from time  
2 to time be authorized by appropriation or other law.

3       SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of each district attor-  
4 ney to whom the Secretary of Labor shall report any viola-  
5 tion of this Act, or to whom any State factory or mining or  
6 quarry inspector, commissioner of labor, State medical in-  
7 spector, or school-attendance officer, or any other person shall  
8 present satisfactory evidence of any such violation to cause  
9 appropriate proceedings to be commenced and prosecuted  
10 in the proper courts of the United States without delay for  
11 the enforcement of the penalties as in such cases herein pro-  
12 vided: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed  
13 to apply to bona fide boys' and girls' canning clubs recog-  
14 nized by the Agricultural Department of the several States  
15 and of the United States.

16       SEC. 6. That any person who violates any of the pro-  
17 visions of section one of this Act, or who refuses or obstructs  
18 entry or inspection authorized by section four of this Act,  
19 shall for the first offense be punished by a fine of not more  
20 than \$200 and for each subsequent offense shall be punished  
21 by a fine of not more than \$1,000 nor less than \$100, or by  
22 imprisonment for not more than three months, or by both  
23 fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court: *Pro-*  
24 *vided*, That no dealer shall be subject to conviction under  
25 the provisions of this Act who shall establish a guaranty

1 issued by the person by whom such goods were manufac-  
2 tured or produced, resident in the United States, to the  
3 effect that in the manufacture and production of such goods,  
4 neither in whole nor in part, had children been employed or  
5 permitted to work in any mine or quarry under the age of  
6 sixteen years, or in any mill, cannery, workshop, factory,  
7 or manufacturing establishment under the age of fourteen  
8 years, or between the ages of fourteen years and sixteen years  
9 who worked more than eight hours in any one day or more  
10 than six days in any one week or after the hour of seven  
11 o'clock postmeridian or before the hour of seven o'clock  
12 antemeridian, and in such event the guarantor shall be  
13 amenable to any prosecution, fine, or penalty to which the  
14 person seeking the protection of such guaranty would other-  
15 wise have been subject under the provisions of this Act. Said  
16 guaranty, to afford the protection above provided, shall  
17 contain the name and address of the person giving the same.

18 SEC. 7. That the word "dealer" or the word "per-  
19 son" as used in this Act shall be construed to include any  
20 individual or corporation or the members of any partnership  
21 or other unincorporated association. The term "ship or de-  
22 liver for shipment in interstate commerce" as used in this  
23 Act means to ship or deliver for shipment from any State or  
24 Territory or the District of Columbia to or through any other  
25 State or Territory or the District of Columbia.



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