

to facilitate the building of the same and securing preliminary surveys and estimates, may by ordinance or resolution provide for the appointment of a joint sewer board composed of one representative from each of the cities, boroughs, and townships joining which shall act generally as the advisory and administrative agency in the construction of such improvement, and its subsequent operation and maintenance. The members of such board shall serve for terms of six years each from the dates of their respective appointments, and until their successors are appointed. The joint sewer board shall organize by the election of chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer. The several cities, boroughs, and townships may, in the ordinances and resolutions creating the joint sewer board, authorize the board to appoint an engineer, a solicitor, and such other assistants as are deemed necessary; and agree to the share of the compensation of such persons each city, borough, and township is to pay. The members of the joint sewer board shall receive [no] *such* compensation [but] *for attending meetings of the board, as shall be fixed in the budget prepared by the board for submission to and adoption by the several cities, boroughs, and townships as hereinafter provided, and the budget item providing for the compensation to members for attending meetings shall not exceed a total of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) per year, and no member shall be paid unless he actually attends, and the fee for each such attendance shall be stipulated, and the members, in addition thereto, shall be entitled to actual expenses to be paid by the respective cities, boroughs, and townships which such members represent.*

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.

APPROVED—The 27th day of May, A. D. 1937.

GEORGE H. EARLE

No. 247

AN ACT

To repeal the act, approved the twenty-ninth day of April, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws, eight hundred fifty-one), entitled "An act fixing the time of holding elections on questions submitted to electors of boroughs."

Act of April 29,
1929 (P. L.
851), repealed.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the act, approved the twenty-ninth day of April, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws, eight hundred fifty-one), entitled "An act fixing the time of holding elections on questions submitted to electors of boroughs," is hereby repealed.

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment. When effective.

APPROVED—The 27th day of May, A. D. 1937.

GEORGE H. EARLE

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No. 248

AN ACT

For the protection of the health and welfare of women and minors by regulating under the police power the minimum fair wages which shall be paid by employers; providing for wage boards, and defining the powers and duties of such boards, and of the Department of Labor and Industry; imposing duties on employers; providing for directory and mandatory orders on employers, and the publication of the names of employers who do not comply with such orders; exempting certain persons from the provisions of this act; and providing penalties.

Be it enacted, &c., That,

Section 1. Factual Background.—Women and minors are employed in some occupations in trade and industry in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for wages unreasonably low and not fairly commensurate with the value of the services rendered. Such a condition is contrary to public interest and public policy commands its regulation. Women and minors employed in such industries are not as a class on a level of equality in bargaining with their employers in regard to minimum fair wage standards, and “freedom of contract” as applied to their relations with their employers is illusory. Judged by any reasonable standard, wages in such industries are often found to bear no relation to the fair value of the services rendered. Women and minors employed for gain in such occupations are peculiarly subject to the overreaching of inefficient, harsh or ignorant employers and under unregulated competition, where no adequate machinery exists for the effective regulation and maintenance of minimum fair wage standards, the standards such as exist tend to be set by the least conscientious employers. In the absence of any effective minimum fair wage rates for women and minors, the constant lowering of wages by unscrupulous employers constitutes a serious form of unfair competition against other employers, reduces the purchasing power of the workers and threatens the stability of industry. The evils of oppressive, unreasonable and unfair wages, as they affect women and minors employed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are such as to render imperative the exercise of the police power of the Commonwealth for the protection of industry, and of the women and minors employed therein, and of the public interest of the community at large in their health and well being.

Employment of
women and
children.