

**COAL MINES, EMPLOYMENT OF MINORS REGULATED**  
**Act of May 2, 1905, P.L. 344, No. 222**  
AN ACT

Cl. 52

Regulating the employment of minor children in or about any anthracite coal mine or colliery; prohibiting the employment of any child under the age of sixteen years inside of any anthracite coal mine; prohibiting the employment of any child under fourteen years of age in or about any anthracite coal-breaker or colliery, or the outside workings thereof; prohibiting the employment of any minor child, of any age, in or about either the inside workings of any anthracite coal mine or in or about any anthracite coal-breaker or colliery, or the outside workings thereof, unless the person, firm, co-partnership or corporation, employing said minor child, shall first obtain and file the employment certificate, as provided for by this act, and carry out the other duties provided by this act; fixing the duties of the common school superintendents, or, in the absence of such an officer, then that of the principal teacher of any city, borough or township, as relates to the issuance of said employment certificates and the other duties provided by this act; declaring what said employment certificate shall contain; providing for the form and wording of said employment certificates and the issuance of the blank-forms by the Department of Mines of this Commonwealth; making false swearing to any certificate provided for by this act to be perjury, and punishable as such; providing that the failure of any employer of minor children to produce the certificate required by this act, upon demand of the proper persons, shall be prima facie evidence of the illegal employment of said minor children; fixing the duty of truant or school attendance officers, as to carrying out the provisions of this act; giving to the common school superintendent, or, in the absence of such an official, then to the principal teacher of any city, borough or township, the same power to administer oaths or affirmations as is now given to notaries public, in all matters connected with the proper enforcement of this act; providing a penalty for the violation of the provisions of this act.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, copartnership or corporation to employ any minor child, under the age of sixteen years, inside of any anthracite coal mine, or to employ any minor child, under the age of fourteen years, in any anthracite coal breaker or colliery, or around the outside workings of any anthracite coal mine.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Chief of the Department of Mines of this Commonwealth, and the right of any citizen of this Commonwealth, in the name of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon any violation of the provisions of section one of this act, to bring suit in the court of common pleas of

the county wherein said offense or violation occurred; and if, upon the trial of the case, the jury shall find that such violation did occur, they shall render a verdict against the offending party or parties, to an amount equal to ten dollars for each and every day said minor child or children were employed contrary to the provisions of this act; said amounts, when collected, to be paid into the State Treasury, for the use of the Commonwealth; and the State Treasurer shall return one-half of the fine or fines so collected to the school-district in which the child, so illegally employed, resided.