

that the current rate of per diem wages shall be paid to laborers, workmen and merchants employed upon Baltimore City work; providing that persons employed by contractors engaged in work for said city shall be considered city employees; providing penalties for the violation of the provisions of this Act, and excepting certain employees of Baltimore City; and to re-enact the same with all provisions of Chapter 85 of the Acts of 1908, but with the amendment that no laborer, workman or mechanic employed directly by Baltimore City shall be paid less than two dollars per diem.

Whereas, By the resolution passed by both branches of the City Council of Baltimore City, it was declared that there was a preponderance of public opinion in the City of Baltimore that the laborers employed by the City of Baltimore should be put upon a better wage basis; that the establishment of a living wage rate by the city would materially advance the average of living among wage-earners in the entire city; that the slight effect which the increased wage would have upon the tax question would be more than offset by the increased circulation of money through the different business channels of the city and by the many advantages that would accrue to the laboring men of Baltimore; and.

Whereas, By said joint resolution of both branches of the City Council of the City of Baltimore the General Assembly of Maryland was petitioned to enact such legislation as would enable and compel the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to pay to city laborers not less than two dollars per day; now, therefore,

**SECTION 1.** *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Chapter 85 of the Acts of 1908, relating to the hours of labor of mechanics and laborers employed upon city work, providing that the current rate of per diem wages shall be paid to laborers, workmen and mechanics employed upon city work; providing that persons employed by contractors engaged in city work shall be considered city employees; providing penalties for the violation of the provisions of the Act, and excepting certain employees of the city, be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, fixing the minimum rate of wages for laborers employed by the City of Baltimore at two dollars per diem, so that said Act when re-enacted shall read as follows:

**SEC. 2.** That eight hours shall constitute a day's work for all laborers, workmen or mechanics who may be employed by or on behalf of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, except in cases of extraordinary emergency, which may arise in time of war or in cases where it may be necessary to work