

CYPRUS

SHOP ASSISTANTS

CHAPTER 185 OF THE LAWS

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1959

CHAPTER 185

SHOP ASSISTANTS.

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A LAW TO REGULATE SHOP HOURS AND THE HOURS OF
EMPLOYMENT OF SHOP ASSISTANTS.

1949 Cap.
159.

8 of 52.

[26th November, 1942.]

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Shop Assistants Law.

Interpre-
tation.

2. In this Law—

“ retail trade or business ” includes the business of a barber or hairdresser, the sale of refreshments or intoxicating liquors, and retail sales by auction, but does not include the sale of programmes and catalogues and other similar sales at theatres and places of amusement ;

“ shop ” means any premises (including markets) where any retail trade or business is carried on ;

“shop assistant” means any person employed in or about a shop, but does not include a shopkeeper or any person employed solely as a caretaker or as a cleaner or other domestic servant ;

“shopkeeper” means the person, company, association or partnership having charge of any shop or owning the business thereof or employing any person in or in connection therewith and includes the manager, agent or other person acting or apparently acting in the general management or control of any shop ;

“week” means the period from midnight on Saturday to midnight on the following Saturday.

3. The Governor may appoint Inspectors to assist in giving effect to the provisions of this Law.

Appointment of Inspectors.

4. Every shop shall close not later than six o'clock in the evening in the months of October to March inclusive in every year, and not later than seven o'clock in the evening in the months of April to September inclusive in every year, and in each such case shall remain closed and shall not reopen earlier than five o'clock on the following morning :

Closing of shops.

Provided that this section shall not apply to any shop solely kept open for one or more of the purposes set forth in the First Schedule to this Law.

First Schedule.

5. Every shop shall be closed not later than one o'clock in the afternoon on one week-day in every week and shall remain closed and shall not reopen earlier than five o'clock on the following morning :

Closing of shops not later than 1 p.m. on one week-day.

Provided that this section shall not apply to any shop solely kept open for one or more of the purposes set forth in the First Schedule to this Law.

First Schedule.

6. Every shop shall be closed on Sundays or on such other day in every week as the Governor may appoint, in lieu of Sunday, under section 19 (d) of this Law:

Sunday closing.

Provided that this section shall not apply to any shop solely kept open for one or more of the purposes and within the times set forth in the Second Schedule to this Law.

Second Schedule.

7. No shopkeeper shall employ a shop assistant in any capacity whatsoever for a longer period than fifty-five hours, excluding meal times, in any one week or at other hours than those set out in the table of working hours required to

Restriction in number of hours a shop assistant may be employed.

be kept exhibited in accordance with the provisions of section 11 (1) (b) of this Law:

2 of 30/45.

Provided that a shop assistant who has not attained the age of sixteen years shall not be employed for a longer period than forty-eight hours, excluding meal-times, in any one week.

Weekly
half-holidays
3 of 30/45.

8. On at least one week-day in each week a shop assistant shall have a half-holiday after one o'clock in the afternoon and shall not, during that half-holiday, be employed in any capacity :

Provided that in the case of a shop assistant employed in any shop set forth in the Second Schedule to this Law, or any amendment thereof, such half-holiday may be had on a Sunday.

Allowance
for meals.

9. There shall be allowed to every shop assistant, for meals during the period of daily employment, not less than one-and-a-half hours of which one hour at least, taken without interruption, shall be before two o'clock in the afternoon.

Seating
accommo-
dation.

10. Every shopkeeper shall provide proper seating accommodation behind the counters or in such other place in the shop as may be suitable for the use of all the shop assistants when not actually engaged in selling and such seats shall be in the proportion of not less than two seats to every three shop assistants.

List of shop
assistants
and table
of working
hours to be
exhibited.

11. (1) Every shopkeeper shall keep exhibited in a conspicuous place in his shop the following :—

- (a) a list of the shop assistants employed therein ;
- (b) a table of the working hours of the shop assistants employed therein ; and
- (c) a notice showing the day appointed for the weekly half-holiday.

(2) Any shopkeeper who fails to comply with the provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding five pounds and in the case of a continuing offence to a fine not exceeding ten pounds in respect of each day on which the offence continues after conviction.

Penalties.
2 of 8/52

12. Any shopkeeper who contravenes or fails to comply with—

- (a) any of the provisions of sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 of this Law ;

- (b) any Order made under the provisions of section 19 of this Law,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine :

Provided that, in the case of a shop assistant employed within fifteen minutes after the closing hour in contravention of the provisions of this Law or of any Order made under the provisions of section 19 of this Law, the shop-keeper shall not be guilty of an offence against this Law or any such Order, if he proves that the shop assistant was engaged only in serving customers whom he was already serving or who were in the shop before the closing hour or that there was reasonable ground for believing that the article supplied to the customer was required in the case of illness.

13. (1) Any Inspector appointed under the provisions of section 3 of this Law and any police officer not below the rank of sergeant may—

Right of entry of Inspectors appointed under this Law and of certain police officers.

- (a) enter, inspect and examine at all reasonable hours by day and night a shop and every part thereof if he has reasonable cause to believe that any shop assistant is employed therein ;

- (b) make such examination and inquiry as may be necessary to ascertain whether the provisions of this Law are being complied with.

(2) Every shopkeeper, his agents and servants shall furnish such facilities as may be required by any such Inspector or police officer for the purpose of any such inspection, inquiry or examination.

(3) If any person wilfully delays or obstructs an Inspector or police officer in the exercise of the powers given by this section, such person shall be guilty of an offence against this Law and shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds or to imprisonment not exceeding two months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

14. Nothing in this Law shall prevent customers from being served, at a time when the shop in which they are sold is required to be closed, with victuals, stores or other necessities for a ship, on her arrival at or immediately

Ships and aeroplanes may be served after closing hours in certain cases.