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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the employment of minors; amending s. 450.081, F.S.; removing certain employment restrictions for minors 16 and 17 years of age; revising the age at which certain employment restrictions do not apply, unless otherwise required by federal law; revising the exceptions to certain work restrictions; removing the authority of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to grant a waiver of employment restrictions; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 450.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 450.081 Hours of work in certain occupations.-
- (1) (a) Minors 15 years of age or younger may not be employed, permitted, or suffered to work:
- 1. Before 7 a.m. or after 7 p.m. when school is scheduled the following day.
- 2. For more than 15 hours in any one week when school is in session.
- (b) On any school day, minors 15 years of age or younger who are not enrolled in a career education program may not be

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gainfully employed for more than 3 hours, unless there is no session of school the following day.

- (c) During holidays and summer vacations, minors 15 years of age or younger may not be employed, permitted, or suffered to work before 7 a.m. or after 9 p.m., for more than 8 hours in any one day, or for more than 40 hours in any one week.
- (2) (a) Minors 16 and 17 years of age may not be employed, permitted, or suffered to work:
- 1. Before 6:30 a.m. or after 11 p.m. when school is scheduled the following day.
- 2. For more than 8 hours in any one day when school is scheduled the following day, except when the day of work is on a holiday or Sunday.
- 3. For more than 30 hours in any one week when school is in session. However, a minor's parent or custodian, or the school superintendent or his or her designee, may waive the limitation imposed in this subparagraph on a form prescribed by the department and provided to the minor's employer.
- (b) On any school day, minors 16 and 17 years of age who are not enrolled in a career education program may not be gainfully employed during school hours.
- (2)(3) Minors 15 years of age or younger may not be employed, permitted, or suffered to work in any gainful occupation for more than 6 consecutive days in any one week.
 - (3) (4) Minors 15 years of age or younger may not be

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employed, permitted, or suffered to work for more than 4 hours continuously without an interval of at least 30 minutes for a meal period; and for the purposes of this section law, a period of less than 30 minutes is not deemed to interrupt a continuous period of work. Minors 16 and 17 years of age who are employed, permitted, or suffered to work for 8 hours or more in any one day as authorized by this section may not be employed, permitted, or suffered to work for more than 4 hours continuously without an interval of at least 30 minutes for a meal period.

 $\underline{(4)}$ Unless otherwise required by federal law, subsections (1)-(3) $\underline{(1)-(4)}$ do not apply to:

- (a) Minors $\underline{14}$ $\underline{16}$ and $\underline{15}$ $\underline{17}$ years of age who have graduated from high school or received a high school equivalency diploma.
- (b) Minors 14 and 15 years of age who are within the compulsory school attendance age limit and who hold a valid certificate of exemption issued by the school superintendent or his or her designee pursuant to s. 1003.21(3).
- (c) Minors enrolled in <u>a public</u> an educational institution who qualify on a hardship basis, such as economic necessity or family emergency. The school superintendent or his or her designee shall make such determination and issue a waiver of hours to the minor and the employer. The form and contents thereof shall be prescribed by the department.
 - (d) Minors 14 $\frac{16}{10}$ and 15 $\frac{17}{10}$ years of age who are in a home

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education program or are enrolled in an approved virtual instruction program in which the minor is separated from the teacher by time only.

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- (e) Minors in domestic service in private homes, minors employed by their parents, or pages in the Florida Legislature.
- (6) The department may grant a waiver of the restrictions imposed by this section pursuant to s. 450.095.
- $\underline{(5)}$ (7) The presence of a minor in any place of employment during working hours is prima facie evidence of his or her employment therein.
- (6) (8) A violation of this section is An employer who requires, schedules, or otherwise causes a minor to be employed, permitted, or suffered to work in violation of this section commits a violation of the law, punishable as provided in s. 450.141.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.