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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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### **Minors due 30-minute workplace breaks**

JUNEAU, Alaska—With Alaska's summer season kicking into high gear, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development is reminding employers to focus on providing safe workplaces for young workers and ensuring 30-minute breaks as required under Alaska Statute 23.10.350(c).

All minors between the ages of 14 and 17 who work a shift lasting more than five hours must receive a break of at least 30 minutes before returning to work. The break must be accurately recorded and it does not have to be paid.

"Breaks reduce workplace accidents and increase productivity," said Joe Dunham, statewide supervising investigator with Alaska's Wage and Hour Administration. "Failing to provide breaks to qualified minors could cost an employer. The Alaska Department of Labor recently audited one local employer that resulted in additional wages and damages to employees of more than \$10,000."

For more information contact a local Wage and Hour Administration Office.

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