

**44-620. Emergency control and operation.** In case of the suspension, limitation or cessation of the operation of any of the industries, employments, public utilities or common carriers affected by this act, contrary to the provisions hereof, or to the orders of the secretary of labor made hereunder, if it shall appear to the secretary that such suspension, limitation, or cessation shall seriously affect the public welfare by endangering the public peace, or threatening the public health, then the secretary is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to take proper proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction of this state to take over, control, direct and operate such industry, employment, public utility or common carrier during such emergency. A fair return and compensation shall be paid to the owners of such industry, employment, public utility or common carrier and also a fair wage to the workers engaged therein, during the time of such operation under the provisions of this section.

**History:** L. 1920, ch. 29, § 20; R.S. 1923, 44-620; L. 1976, ch. 370, § 37; L. 2004, ch. 179, § 36; July 1.