

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 659

House of Representatives, March 26, 1913.

*Reported by Mr. Butler from Committee on Ways and
Bridges, and ordered printed under joint rules.*

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE in favor of a highway bridge over Saint John
River between Fort Kent, Maine, and St. Francis, New
Brunswick.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be available
3 in the year 1914, for the purpose of aiding in the construc-
4 tion of a highway bridge across the St. John river between
5 some point within the limits of the Fort Kent village cor-
6 poration in Fort Kent, county of Aroostook, and the parish
7 of St. Francis in the county of Madawaska, province of
8 New Brunswick. Provided, that the county of Aroostook
9 appropriate five thousand dollars (\$5000) in the year 1913
10 and five thousand dollars (\$5000) in the year 1914, and that
11 the town of Fort Kent appropriates twenty-five hundred

12 dollars (\$2500) in the year 1913 and twenty-five hundred
13 dollars (\$2500) in the year 1914, all for the same purpose.

Provided further that the expenditure of this amount shall
15 not be made unless the Dominion of Canada or the province
16 of New Brunswick appropriates the sum of thirty thousand
17 dollars to be expended for the construction of said bridge.

Said appropriation shall be expended under the direction
19 of the state commissioner of highways, who, acting in con-
20 cert with such person or persons as may be designated by
21 the Dominion of Canada or the province of New Brunswick,
22 shall have charge of the construction of said bridge.

STATEMENT OF FACT.

Fort Kent is the largest town on the Saint John River in the State of Maine. It had a population of 3710 in 1910 and is the center of population of a territory now containing about 13,000 and which is rapidly increasing. Except a foot bridge there is no bridge across the Saint John River for forty-five miles in either direction. During several weeks in each year the river is entirely impassable and its crossing is frequently dangerous. It is estimated that the cost of this bridge would be somewhat less than that of the bridge at Van Buren to which the state contributed about forty thousand dollars and the Canadian Government an equal amount.

There is every reason to believe that the Dominion Parliament will vote to provide one-half the funds necessary in case the State of Maine takes action.