

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 11

House of Representatives, January 16, 1919.

On motion of Mr. Allan of Portland was again tabled for printing pending reference to a committee and 500 copies ordered printed.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Perkins of Orono.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND
NINE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN

JOINT RESOLVE for the creation of a commission to investigate the entire question of ownership and development by the State of the undeveloped water powers within the State and all issues necessarily involved therein.

Resolved: That a commission of five members, one of
2 whom shall be an engineer skilled in his profession, shall
3 be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Coun-
4 cil, whose duty it shall be to make a thorough and impartial
5 investigation of the entire subject of ownership and develop-
6 ment by the State of the undeveloped water powers within
7 the State and all issues necessarily involved therein.

That it, among other things, shall investigate and report
2 what water powers have been developed by private com-
3 panies, the character and extent thereof and to what extent,
4 if any, said companies by combinations or otherwise have
5 attempted to retard or have retarded the development of
6 water powers for the purpose of preventing competition.

That it shall, so far as is practicable, investigate and re-
2 port the number and capacity of the undeveloped water pow-
3 ers, the estimated cost of acquiring and developing the same
4 and the best methods for such development.

That it shall investigate and report as to the rights of the
2 people in and to the undeveloped water powers.

That it shall investigate and report upon the practicability
2 and cost of the use of electricity for heating purposes and
3 the relative value of coal and electricity for such purposes.
4 Also the practicability and cost of distributing electricity
5 through the farming sections of the State for heating, light-
6 ing and power purposes.

Said commission shall hold public meetings from time to
2 time in different sections of the State, of which due public
3 notice shall be given, so that all interested parties may be
4 given full opportunity to be heard.

It shall investigate and report on such other matters per-
2 taining to this subject as it may deem necessary and proper.

Said commission is authorized and empowered to employ
2 such assistance as it may deem necessary, and shall have the
3 power to summon and compel the attendance of witnesses

4 who shall testify under oath and to compel the production
5 of books and documents and such other papers as it may
6 deem necessary for the proper performance of its duties.

Said commission shall on or before December 1, 1920, make
2 a full report to the Governor and Council of its findings, to-
3 gether with recommendations for such legislation, if any, as
4 it may deem necessary.

The members of the commission shall receive such com-
2 pensation as may be determined by the Governor and Coun-
3 cil.

That there is hereby appropriated for the year 1919 the
2 sum of twenty-five thousand dollars and for the year 1920
3 the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars.