

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
HOUSE NO. 21

House of Representatives, Jan. 22, 1919.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bean of Minot.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend section seventeen of chapter twenty-four
of the Revised Statutes, relating to Town and Private Ways.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Revised Statutes, chapter 24, section 17. Relating to winter
2 roads. Section seventeen of chapter twenty-four is hereby
3 amended by adding thereto the following:

“The municipal officers of a town, may close any highway,
2 when, in their judgment, the said highway is unsuitable for
3 traveling because of bad drifting of snow, or because of any
4 other obstruction, and lay a road; and the town shall pay
5 to the owner of the land over which said road is laid an
6 amount equal to the damages caused the owner of the land

7 by reason of such location. Said road to be discontinued
8 as soon as said highway is reopened.' So that said section,
9 as amended, shall read as follows :

'Sect. 17. Winter roads, Revised Statutes, chapter 23, sec-
2 tion 17. They may lay out a way as aforesaid for the haul-
3 ing of merchandise, hay, wood, or lumber, to be used only
4 when the ground is so covered with snow that such hauling
5 shall not break the soil. When so laid out, they shall
6 state in their return the purposes for which it is laid, and
7 that it shall be used only in the winter season, and shall
8 order the persons for whose accommodation it is laid, to
9 pay into the town treasury an amount equal to the damages
10 of such location for the benefit of the owner of the land over
11 which it is laid, and the expenses of such location, and it
12 shall not be accepted by the town until such amount is so
13 paid. No town shall be liable for damage to any person
14 traveling on such way. The municipal officers of a town,
15 may close any highway, when, in their judgment, the said
16 highway is unsuitable for traveling because of bad drifting
17 of snow, or because of any other obstruction, and lay a
18 road; and the town shall pay to the owner of the land over
19 which said road is laid an amount equal to the damages
20 caused the owner of the land by reason of such location.
21 Said road to be discontinued as soon as said highway is re-
22 opened.'