

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

NEW DRAFT

SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 470

House of Representatives, March 21, 1919.

Reported by Mr. Clason from Committee on Ways and
Bridges and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Provide Aid for Assistance of Towns in Main-
taining Town Highways.

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

Section 1. Section thirty-six of the revised statutes as
2 enacted in chapter two hundred fifty-eight of the public
3 laws of nineteen hundred seventeen is hereby amended by
4 striking out all of said section and substituting therefor
5 the following section:

'Sec. 36. MILL TAX HIGHWAY FUND CREATED;
2 HOW EXPENDED. A tax of one mill on a dollar shall
3 annually be assessed upon all property of the state accord-
4 ing to the value thereof, and shall be known as the mill

5 tax highway fund for the construction of highways, as
6 defined in section five, chapter twenty-five of the revised
7 statutes. One-third of the mill tax highway fund shall
8 annually be applied under the provisions of this act in
9 the construction and maintenance of second and third-class
10 highways as defined in section five of chapter twenty-five
11 of the revised statutes in addition to other funds provided
12 for the construction of state aid highways and shall be
13 known as the third-class highways fund. Two hundred
14 thousand dollars of the amount herein named shall be
15 added to the fund of three hundred thousand dollars for
16 state aid construction as provided in section thirty-four,
17 chapter twenty-five of the revised statutes, and shall be
18 applied to the construction of state aid highways and shall
19 be called state aid highway fund. The balance of said mill
20 tax highway fund shall be exclusively for the construction
21 of state highways as provided in chapter twenty-five of
22 the revised statutes and shall be called state highway fund;
23 except so far as may be necessary to carry out the provi-
24 sions of this section and meet the requirements of the na-
25 tional government in order for the state to receive federal
26 aid for highway construction, the state highway fund shall
27 be expended equitably among the several counties of the
28 state by the state highway commission.'

Sect. 2. The administration and expenditure of the third-
2 class highways fund shall be under the general supervision
3 of the state highway commission, and shall be apportioned

4 and expended for the construction and maintenance only
5 when towns which upon application for such state aid shall
6 have appropriated, in addition to the appropriation for
7 state aid work and appropriations under the so-called bridge
8 act, an amount not less than the average by them appro-
9 priated for ways and bridges for the five years immedi-
10 ately preceding the year of such application, provided the
11 five year average be not less than four mills on the valua-
12 tion of such town or towns. The third-class highways
13 fund shall be distributed as follows: To towns whose
14 tax rate is four mills and under five mills aid shall be
15 appropriated at the rate of ten dollars for each mile of
16 wrought highway in the town, and for each one mill in-
17 crease above said four mills on the tax rates for highway
18 purposes in any town, an increase of one dollar per mile of
19 wrought highway shall be allowed to such town. Any bal-
20 ance remaining from this fund at the end of the year shall
21 on December thirty-first annually be added to the equaliza-
22 tion fund named in section five of said chapter two hun-
23 dred fifty-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred
24 seventeen, and used for that purpose.

Sect. 3. Municipal officers of any town may, prior to
2 October one in any year, file with the state highway com-
3 mission the description or location of the road whose con-
4 struction and improvement they recommend under the pro-
5 visions of this act. Upon approval of said location by
6 the state highway commission, the municipal officers shall

7 proceed with the construction of a section upon said loca-
8 tion in conformity with the provisions of the following
9 section of this act. After acceptance by the state highway
10 commission of a location as above, construction shall be
11 continued on that location until the entire length of the
12 road has been constructed, or until the location is changed.
13 Upon the completion of any road located as above, municipi-
14 pal officers shall file with the state highway commission
15 recommendation for location upon another road. The work
16 performed under this act shall be completed before the
17 thirtieth day of September annually and in no case shall
18 any of the third-class highways fund be expended upon a
19 section of a road where the buildings are nearer than two
20 hundred feet apart for a distance of one-fourth of a mile or
21 more.

Sect. 4. Highways improved by the expenditure of funds
2 received under this act shall be made to conform to the
3 standard of construction as shall be agreed upon by the
4 selectmen, or officials acting in the same capacity, in the
5 respective towns where the provisions of this act applies,
6 and such standard of construction must meet the approval
7 of the state highway commission.

Sect. 5. The state highway commission shall cooperate
2 with the municipal officers in the execution of improve-
3 ment work under this act. No money shall be paid by
4 the state on account of work performed under this act un-

5 til the work has been inspected and accepted by the state
6 highway commission.

Sect. 6. Roads constructed under the provisions of this
2 act must be suitably maintained by the town, under penalty
3 of forfeiture of right of the town to receive the benefit of
4 future apportionments under this act. A sum not to ex-
5 ceed twenty-five per cent. of any year's apportionment to
6 a town under the provisions of this act may be used for
7 maintenance of road constructed under the provisions here-
8 of.