

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(NEW DRAFT)

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**EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE**

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**H. P. No. 1230**

**H. D. No. 446**

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House of Representatives, March 23, 1925.

Reported by Mr. Sargent of Sedgwick from Committee on Public Utilities and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Wing of Auburn.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE**

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AN ACT to Amend Section 72 of Chapter 56 of the Revised Statutes, as Amended by Chapter 16 of the Public Laws of 1921, Relating to the Ringing of the Engine Bell or Sounding of the Whistle at Grade Crossings.

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

Section 1. Section seventy-two of chapter fifty-six of the 2 revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word 3 "eighty" in line fourteen, the word "seventy-five" in line 4 fifteen, and the word "eighty" in line twenty-two, and sub- 5 stituting therefor the word "sixty" in line fourteen, the 6 word "sixty" in line fifteen, and the word "sixty" in line

7 twenty-two, and by adding the word 'beginning' in the sev-  
8 enteenth line before the word "at," and by adding the word  
9 'beginning' before the word "at" in the eighteenth line, so  
10 that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 72. Whistles must be sounded in cities and villages  
2 in addition to ringing of the bell unless public utilities com-  
3 mission, upon petition of the corporation, of municipal offi-  
4 cers or of ten or more legal voters orders it discontinued;  
5 distances from crossings where warning is to be sounded  
6 changed. Every railroad corporation shall cause sign-boards  
7 with the words "Railroad Crossing" distinctly painted on  
8 each side thereof in letters plainly legible, to be placed and  
9 constantly maintained at the side of highways and town  
10 ways where they are crossed at grade by such railroads,  
11 on posts or other structures, in such position as to be easily  
12 seen by persons passing upon such ways; and every such  
13 corporation shall cause a steam whistle, and a bell of at  
14 least thirty-five pounds in weight to be placed upon each  
15 locomotive used upon its railroad, and such whistles shall  
16 be sounded as a warning beginning at a distance of sixty  
17 rods on standard gauge railroads and beginning at a dis-  
18 tance of sixty rods on narrow gauge railroads from all  
19 crossings of such ways on the same level, unless the public  
20 utilities commission upon petition of the corporation or of  
21 the municipal officers or of ten or more legal voters of any  
22 city or town in which such crossing is located, after notice  
23 and hearing, shall order the sounding of such whistle to be

24 discontinued in any city or village until further order of  
25 the commission; and such bell shall be rung at a distance  
26 of sixty rods on standard gauge railroads and sixty rods  
27 on narrow gauge railroads, from such grade crossings, and  
28 be kept ringing until the engine has passed the same; pro-  
29 vided, however, that upon petition of ten or more legal  
30 voters of the state, after notice to the railroad corporation  
31 and a public hearing, the public utilities commission may  
32 in writing order such corporation to give additional warn-  
33 ing to travelers upon such ways by requiring the sounding  
34 of such whistles or the ringing of such bells at other places  
35 where said railroads cross such public ways other than at  
36 grade or run contiguous thereto, and such orders shall have  
37 the same force, and place the same obligations upon rail-  
38 road corporations as when required under the provisions  
39 of this section.'

Sect. 2. Until November first, nineteen hundred and  
2 twenty-five, it shall be legal to sound the said whistles at  
3 either eighty or sixty rods from such crossings.