

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1053**

H. P. 1876

House of Representatives, April 16, 1937.

Reported by Mr. Fuller from Committee on Claims and laid on table to be printed under Joint Rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

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S T A T E O F M A I N E

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
THIRTY-SEVEN

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**RESOLVE, in Favor of George A. Johnson, of East Machias.**

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**George A. Johnson; compensated. Resolved:** That there be, and hereby is, appropriated, the sum of \$3600 to be paid to the health and welfare department to be held in trust for the benefit of George A. Johnson, minor child of Frank Johnson of East Machias, as a full and final settlement against the state for injuries caused by a truck operated by an agent of the inland fisheries and game department; said sum to be paid from the general state funds, and be it further

**Resolved:** That the department of health and welfare shall hold this money in trust and pay the amount of \$30 per month for the care of George A. Johnson, minor child of Frank Johnson, until this amount is expended, and be it further

**Resolved:** That in case that hospitalization is necessary, the department of health and welfare shall pay the hospital bills out of the aforesaid amount, and be it further

**Resolved:** That in case of death of George A. Johnson, before this amount is expended then the balance shall revert to the general funds of the state.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

George Alfred Johnson, age 6½ years, was on May 24, 1933 seriously and permanently injured by a truck belonging to the state of Maine. On account of this accident, this boy has been confined to hospitals as follows: Machias Hospital, 8 months, 10 days; Chipman Hospital, 9 days and Peter Bent Brigham, 5 trips—4 months, 12 days; 27 days; 7 days; 1 day and 7 days. He now has to go to Peter Bent Brigham where the operations were performed and has to once in every three months.

Very serious and complicated operations have been performed and today this little boy is left an invalid requiring constant care from some one for the rest of his life.

This case has never been settled; the Insurance Company about 8 months from date of accident offered a settlement of \$2200, which at that time would have paid the actual bills and allowed about \$450, for the care of boy for life. On account of the seriousness of this accident and the delicate condition of the boy, the parents could not accept. To date the expenses alone caused by this accident have been in the neighborhood of \$5000.

The Insurance Company now offers a settlement of \$3200 which of course, is entirely inadequate. This family, consisting of the mother, father and little boy and girl, when this great tragedy came to wreck their home forever, were comfortably situated, owning a small farm, a gravel bank that brought them returns yearly and a separate 75 acre wood lot.

Today the creditors have taken everything, including their home, and reduced this family so that Mr. Johnson is working on a government relief project at \$44 per month.