

# **MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE**

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## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

# NINETY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

## **Legislative Document**

No. 1578

H. P. 1309 House of Representatives, September 21, 1954

Received out of order and under suspension of the rules. Referred to the Committees on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Highways jointly. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cole of Liberty.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-FOUR

**AN ACT Providing Emergency Relief to Municipalities from Hurricane  
Damage to Highways.**

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas the hurricanes, Carol and Edna, caused great damage to the highways in this state; and

Whereas many of the towns do not have available funds to repair the damaged ways and bridges; and

Whereas, the legislature finds as a fact that it is essential to the welfare and safety of the people that the highways be restored to use as soon as possible; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of public peace, health and safety, now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1. Appropriation for emergency relief.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund surplus of the state the sum of \$1,000,000,

to be expended under the supervision of the state highway commission, to carry out the provisions of this act.

**Sec. 2. Emergency highway relief provided.** The state highway commission is hereby authorized and directed to reimburse the various cities and towns according to the provisions of this act for part of the necessitous expenses of repairing and replacing ways and bridges that are maintained by such cities and towns that were damaged by the hurricanes, Carol and Edna.

The said cities and towns shall be reimbursed by the state for 50% of the cost of the repairing and replacement of the ways and bridges that were damaged by the said hurricanes. The reimbursement cost shall be limited to the cost of replacement in the condition that the said ways and bridges were immediately preceding the arrival of hurricane Carol.

In the cases where 1% of the city or town's valuation, as reported by the bureau of taxation on November 21, 1952, is less than 50% of the costs of the projects within that city or town, the said commission shall further reimburse the said city or town to the extent of the difference between 1% of valuation and the 50% cost of the projects within that city or town. Provided, however, that in case reimbursements from other sources in addition to the state's reimbursements should exceed the total cost of the replacement of the damaged highways and bridges to the former condition, the city or town shall reimburse the state to the extent of the excess.

All of the work done on these projects must be carried out to the satisfaction of the state highway commission.

The said commission may advance to any city or town up to 25% of the project cost as estimated by the said commission.

Further payments shall be conditioned on the furnishing of proper vouchers, pay-rolls, and other documentary evidence, covering the work done under the advance payments as well as the work that follows.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble hereof, this act shall take effect upon approval.