

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EMERGENCY
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1845

S. P. 773

In Senate, January 9, 1968

Referred to the Committee on Highways. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Ferguson of Oxford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-EIGHT

AN ACT Relating to the Piscataqua River Bridge.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the 101st Legislature authorized the construction of a bridge and approaches spanning the Piscataqua River from Kittery, Maine to Portsmouth, New Hampshire as evidenced by the private and special laws of 1963, chapter 75; and

Whereas, the legislation directed the State Highway Commission to cooperate with the Federal Bureau of Public Roads and the State of New Hampshire for the purpose of arranging the construction and approaches; and

Whereas, the legislation limited the responsibility of the commission for the construction costs; and

Whereas, the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire has enacted parallel legislation authorizing the construction of this bridge in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Public Roads and the State of Maine; and

Whereas, it is in the best interests of the 2 states and would expedite construction of the bridge for the Maine State Highway Commission to assume the responsibility for advertising for bids and executing the contracts in its name for construction of the bridge, with the State of New Hampshire agreeing to reimburse the State of Maine for New Hampshire's proportionate share of the cost of the bridge and approaches; and

Whereas, it is in the best interests of the State of Maine to expedite construction of this bridge for the purpose of providing an adequate highway approach for vehicular traffic entering Maine from the State of New Hampshire; and

Whereas, it is declared that it be the legislative intent to place the State of Maine in a position to contract for the construction of this bridge assuming full responsibility for the construction costs with the security and assurance of reimbursement of such part of the bridge as may be determined to be the liability of the State of New Hampshire as specified in the agreement to be entered into by the respective states ; 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 the public peace, health and safety ; now, therefore,

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

P. & S. L., 1963, c. 75, amended. The last paragraph of chapter 75 of the private and special laws of 1963 is amended to read as follows :

The State Highway Commission is directed to cooperate with the Federal Bureau of Public Roads and with the State of New Hampshire for the purpose of arranging for the construction of the bridge and approaches, it being understood that the State of Maine will be responsible for the construction costs ~~for the Maine approach and for such part of the bridge as may be determined to be the responsibility of the State of Maine,~~ and further the State Highway Commission is directed and empowered to enter into an agreement with the State of New Hampshire in the matter of the determination of the financial responsibility for such part of the bridge as may be determined to be the liability of the State of New Hampshire.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.