

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 of: H. P. 1411, L. D. 1851

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1970

H. P. 1540

House of Representatives, May 25, 1973

Reported by Majority from the Committee on Public Utilities and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

**AN ACT to Provide Additional Requirements for Investigation of Railroad
Company Accidents by the Public Utilities Commission.**

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

R. S., T. 35, § 142, additional. Title 35 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 142 to read as follows:

§ 142. Railroad company accidents

The commission shall investigate all accidents resulting in the loss of human life, or personal injury requiring 3 full days hospitalization, occurring upon the premises of any railroad company or directly or indirectly arising from or connected with its maintenance or operation and in connection with such investigations, the commission shall hold a hearing. Commission orders and recommendations, accident reports and all other materials in the commission's file pertaining to such railroad company accidents shall be made available, upon request, to the railroad company, the injured party or their representatives. Neither commission orders or recommendations nor accident reports or any other materials in the commission file pertaining to such accidents shall be admitted as evidence in any suit or action for damages growing out of any matter mentioned in any investigation pursuant to this section. To the extent the provisions of section 141 are not inconsistent herewith, they shall apply to railroad company accidents.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to create additional requirements in the Public Utilities Commission to investigate and conduct hearings on accidents in-

volving railroad companies resulting in fatalities or serious injury requiring 3 or more days of hospitalization.

In addition, the purpose is to adequately protect the welfare of the employees and general public by issuing recommendations and orders relating to such accidents and to further provide that such orders, recommendations and other information the commission may assemble in connection therewith will be made available to the railroad, the injured party or their representatives. Such orders or reports or recommendations shall not be permitted to be used in any suit or action for damages growing out of such accident.