

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 457

H. P. 366

House of Representatives, February 16, 1977

On motion of Mr. Kelleher of Bangor, referred to the Committee on Public Utilities. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Wood of Sanford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Public Utilities Commission Participation in the Federal Railroad Administration Track and Equipment Safety and Inspection Program.

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

Sec. 1. 35 MRSA § 17 is enacted to read:

§ 17. Participation in the Federal Railroad Administration Track and Equipment Safety and Inspection Program

The commission shall have the authority to participate in carrying out investigative and surveillance activities in connection with any rule, regulation, order or standard prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation of the United States under the authority of the Federal Railroad Safety Act, United States Code, Title 45, chapter 13, provided that the commission shall comply with all the requirements imposed by the United States Code, Title 45, section 435. The commission may employ such expert, professional or other assistance as is necessary to carry out the activities authorized by this section.

Sec. 2. 35 MRSA § 771, last sentence is repealed as follows:

~~Said commission shall maintain no permanent full-time employees for making such inspections~~

Sec. 3. **Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Public Utilities Commission the sum of \$16,355.75 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978 and the sum of \$16,166.41 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1979 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78	1978-79
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION		
Personal Services	(2) \$23,146.50	(2) \$24,332.81
All Other	8,000.00	8,000.00
Capital Expenditures	1,565.00	—
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	\$32,711.50	\$32,332.81
State's Share (50%)	\$16,355.75	\$16,166.41

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Public Utilities Commission to participate in the Federal Railroad Administration Track and Equipment Safety and Inspection Program. Such participation is 50% funded by the Federal Government and thus only a state appropriation of \$16,355.75 is required to meet the State's share for the fiscal year 1977-78 and \$16,166.41 for the fiscal year 1978-79.