

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 925

H.P. 684 House of Representatives, March 25, 1987
Submitted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to
Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative STROUT of Corinth.

Cosponsored by Representatives NADEAU of Lewiston,
CALLAHAN of Mechanic Falls, and Senator CAHILL of Sagadahoc.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Local Bridges.

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

5 Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §608-A, sub-§11, as enacted by
6 PL 1985, c. 480, §§7 and 10, is amended to read:

7 11. Time of approval. "Time of approval" means
8 the date on which the town approves the preliminary
9 design and, authorizes the improvement, and notifies
10 the Department of Transportation of its decision.
11 When appropriate, notification shall be accompanied
12 by initial funding from the town.

13 Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §609, as enacted by PL 1985, c.
14 480, §§7 and 10, is amended to read:

1 §609. Approval to proceed

2 The department shall inform the town or county of
3 the estimated cost of the bridge improvement, includ-
4 ing their estimated share of the cost. The town may
5 either cancel the improvement request or issue ap-
6 proval to proceed. Approval to proceed shall be ac-
7 companied by initial funding. Town and county per-
8 centages of cost become fixed at this time. After
9 town officials are authorized to raise the local
10 share of the estimated cost of the bridge improve-
11 ment, the department shall proceed with the necessary
12 engineering and other work. The department shall se-
13 lect the appropriate construction procedure in ac-
14 cordance with standard procedures. In accordance
15 with established procedures, the chief engineer may
16 authorize construction by town forces.

17 Sec. 3. 23 MRSA §610-G, as enacted by PL 1985,
18 c. 480, §§7 and 10, is amended to read:

19 §610-G. Local bridges on federal systems

20 Bridges that otherwise qualify for the provisions
21 of this subchapter but which are on federally desig-
22 nated highway systems shall be eligible for state
23 maintenance under the conditions of this subchapter
24 and, at the option of the town government, be eligi-
25 ble for the provisions for capital improvements, in-
26 cluding cost sharing, as an alternative to
27 federal-town financing. Bridges crossing federally
28 designated highway systems shall be the responsibili-
29 ty of the State.

30 STATEMENT OF FACT

31 The purpose of this bill is to make minor adjust-
32 ments to the local bridges legislation passed by the
33 112th Legislature.

34 Section 1 makes clear that a town must notify the
35 Department of Transportation of its approval to pro-
36 ceed with a bridge project.

1 Section 2 permits local bridges to be constructed
2 by town forces subject to the approval of the Depart-
3 ment of Transportation's Chief Engineer.

4 Section 3 makes the State responsible for all
5 capital improvements and maintenance activities for
6 overpass bridges crossing federally designated sys-
7 tems such as Route 1.

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