

# 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)

---

---

# Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

---

---

HOUSE.

No. 157.

---

---

## STATE OF MAINE.

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED  
AND NINETY-SEVEN

---

AN ACT granting Ernest E. Abbott the right to Establish and  
Maintain a Ferry between Sullivan and Hancock.

---

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in  
Legislature assembled, as follows:*

Section 1. Ernest E. Abbott of Hancock, and his assigns  
2 are hereby authorized to establish and maintain a ferry for  
3 the space of eight years between the towns of Sullivan and  
4 Hancock, in the county of Hancock, across Taunton bay,  
5 or Sullivan river, so called, from the terminus of the road  
6 as now existing on the Sullivan shore to the terminus of the  
7 road as now existing on the Hancock shore; with the right  
8 to keep and maintain suitable boats to be propelled by oars,  
9 sails, cable, naphtha, gasoline, or similar motive power, for  
10 the prompt and safe conveyance and transportation of pas-

11 sengers, teams, carriages and freight, and he is hereby  
12 authorized for this purpose to lay and maintain a cable  
13 across said Sullivan river between the termini above men-  
14 tioned, but in such a way as not to obstruct navigation.

Said Abbott or his assigns is hereby authorized and  
16 empowered to erect and maintain at the terminal points of  
17 said ferry such wharves, slips, landings, toll-houses, wait-  
18 ing rooms, and other structures as may be necessary for the  
19 proper and convenient operation and maintenance of said  
20 ferry; and for that purpose to take and hold or purchase and  
21 lease real estate at the terminal points of said ferry.

If the parties cannot agree as to the value of any land taken  
23 under this act the value shall be fixed and the damages  
24 assessed in the manner provided by law in cases when real  
25 estate is taken by railroads.

Sect. 2. The following rates of toll are hereby estab-  
2 lished; for a single team and carriage carrying not exceed-  
3 ing two persons, thirty-five cents; for a double team and  
4 carriage carrying not exceeding two persons, fifty cents; for  
5 each person exceeding two, five cents; and for each addi-  
6 tional horse, ten cents; for a foot passenger, ten cents, for a  
7 yoke of cattle and driver, thirty-five cents; for same, with  
8 cart, fifty cents; for an ox or horse not driven in harness,  
9 fifteen cents; and for each additional, ten cents, the driver  
10 paying as a foot passenger; and for sheep or swine, five  
11 cents per head; for a bicycle and rider, twenty cents.

Sect. 3. Said ferry shall be operated, when the weather  
2 permits, from half past five o'clock in the forenoon until nine  
3 o'clock in the afternoon, between the dates of May fifteen

4 and September fifteen of each year, and from sunrise until  
5 half past seven o'clock in the afternoon between the dates of  
6 September fifteen and May fifteen inclusive of each year.  
7 But transportation shall be provided for foot passengers  
8 from the last down train at night at Hancock, at fifteen cents  
9 each, but not later than half past nine in the afternoon,  
10 standard time. For any unreasonable neglect or delay to  
11 transport either passengers or freight during the hours thus  
12 named, the persons operating said ferry shall be liable in an  
13 action on the case to the party injured for his damages.

Sect. 4. Any person who keeps a ferry contrary to the  
2 provisions of this act, or who transports passengers, teams,  
3 carriages or freight between said towns of Sullivan and  
4 Hancock, across said Taunton bay or Sullivan river within  
5 three-fourths of a statute mile above or below the ferry  
6 established by this act, for hire, or who furnishes for hire a  
7 boat or other craft for such purpose, forfeits four dollars for  
8 each day such ferry is kept or for each time of transporta-  
9 tion, the same to be recovered by said Abbott or his assigns,  
10 to their use, in an action on the case.

Sect. 5. Said Abbott or his assigns, shall give a bond to  
2 the treasurer of the county of Hancock in such sum as the  
3 county commissioners of said county shall require, and with  
4 two sureties approved by said commissioners, for the faith-  
5 ful performance of the provisions of this act. Any one  
6 injured in person or property by the negligence or fault of  
7 the persons operating said ferry, or their employees, may  
8 commence a suit on such bond in which the proceedings  
9 shall be similar to those in actions on the bonds of sheriffs,

10 or instead may sue the person operating said ferry in an  
11 action on the case.

Sect. 6. The county commissioners of Hancock county  
2 shall have supervision of all matters pertaining to all appa-  
3 ratus used in operating said ferry and service at the same,  
4 and upon petition and hearing, may order the same to be  
5 improved, and if said order shall not be complied with to  
6 their satisfaction, may revoke all the privileges granted in  
7 this act; and may, after petition and hearing, at any time,  
8 revoke the same when in their judgment the public inter-  
9 ests demand it. When at any hearing they find the person  
10 operating said ferry to be at fault, the latter shall pay costs  
11 of hearing, not including counsel fees; otherwise said costs  
12 shall be paid by petitioner. If said commissioners shall  
13 under the foregoing provisions revoke the privileges grant-  
14 ed by this act, they shall thereupon appraise the boats,  
15 apparatus and other personal property used in running said  
16 ferry at its fair value, and any person who may be appointed  
17 to run said ferry by said commissioners under the statutes  
18 of Maine, shall purchase said property at said appraisal if  
19 the owner thereof consents thereto.

Sect. 7. Said Abbott or his assigns may transfer, by  
2 assignment in writing, the privileges granted by this act, and  
3 the person so transferring said rights shall be relieved from  
4 all obligations imposed by this act.

Sect. 8. Chapter one hundred and fifty-nine of the Pri-  
2 vate and Special Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-five  
3 is hereby repealed.

Sect. 9. This act shall take effect when approved.



STATE OF MAINE.

---

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

February 25, 1897.

Reported by Mr. KNOWLTON of Portland, from Committee on Judiciary, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*