

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 158.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to enable the County of Sagadahoc to rebuild the
Merrymeeting Bay Bridge, to issue bonds therefor and to
make it and Arrowsic Bridge free.

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

Section 1. Section five of chapter forty-two of the
2 Private and Special Laws of 1878, is hereby repealed.

Sect. 2. The county commissioners of Sagadahoc county
2 are authorized and empowered to repair and rebuild the
3 bridge over Merrymeeting Bay, and to defray the cost and
4 outlay therefor by the issue of bonds of said county not

5 exceeding the cost of repairing and rebuilding said bridge,
6 made payable in not more than forty years from date, with
7 annual interest not to exceed four and one-half per centum,
8 per annum, payable semi-annually, signed by the county
9 treasurer and countersigned by said county commissioners,
10 said bonds to be of such denominations as the county com-
11 missioners may deem advisable.

Sect. 3. The inhabitants of the town of Arrowsic may at
2 any legal town meeting, called therefor, by a majority vote,
3 transfer and convey by gift to the county of Sagadahoc all
4 the stock, franchises and property of the Arrowsic Bridge
5 Company, which shall thereupon vest in the county, which is
6 hereby authorized to accept and hold the same.

Sect. 4. From and after the acceptance of this act in the
2 manner provided by section five thereof, the county of Sag-
3 adahoc is hereby authorized and empowered to maintain
4 both the bridges aforesaid, free of tolls, and the county com-
5 missioners of said county shall keep said bridges and
6 approaches thereto in repair so that the same shall be safe
7 and convenient for public travel, and shall include in their
8 annual estimates of county taxes the sums necessary there-
9 for, together with a sum equal to two per centum of the
10 bonds issued in virtue of this act, which sum shall be set
11 aside yearly until, with its past and prospective accretions,
12 it shall be sufficient to provide for the payment of said bonds
13 at maturity and said sum and accretions shall constitute a
14 sinking fund for the payment of said bonds and shall be
15 invested in such interest bearing securities as said commis-

16 sioners shall approve or in such bonds, but shall not in any
17 other manner be loaned to said county.

Sect. 5. No part of this act shall take effect unless and
2 until it is accepted as a whole, including the freeing of both
3 bridges and the issuing of county bonds, by the legal voters
4 of Sagadahoc county by a majority vote at meetings of the
5 several towns and municipalities in said county, duly noti-
6 fied and warned, to be held on the first Monday in June,
7 next, for the purpose of accepting or rejecting this act as
8 a whole, at which meetings the vote shall be by ballot as
9 follows: "For rebuilding Merrymeeting Bay bridge, issu-
10 ing bonds therefor, accepting Arrowsic Bridge and making
11 the two bridges free; 'Yes,' 'No.'" The ballots shall be
12 received, sorted, counted and declared as votes for town
13 officers are, and shall be recorded by the town and city
14 clerks, and true copies thereof sealed and attested, shall be
15 transmitted to the county commissioners of the county of
16 Sagadahoc within six days. The commissioners shall open
17 and declare the votes so returned by publishing the same in
18 the Bath Enterprise and Bath Independent, in two issues
19 of those papers. If errors appear in the returns they shall
20 be corrected by the commissioners by proper evidence, and
21 if a majority of the ballots returned have "Yes" upon them,
22 it shall be deemed to be an acceptance of this act, and the
23 same shall then be in force; but if there should be a major-
24 ity of ballots with "No" thereon, it shall be deemed a rejec-
25 tion of the same.

Sect. 6. Before said meetings are called, the county commissioners shall procure careful estimates by a competent and disinterested civil engineer of the entire cost of rebuilding Merrymeeting Bay bridge in a suitable manner, and of making the same and its approaches permanent and safe for public travel, and shall cause said estimates to be kept in their office at Bath open for public inspection for at least thirty days before the first Monday of June, next.

Sect. 7. At the meeting in the city of Bath to be held under the provisions hereof, the check lists used at the March, 1897, municipal election, or copies thereof attested by the city clerk shall be used. The board of registration shall be in session only on the day of said meeting, and any person legally qualified to vote at said meeting, whose name shall not be borne upon said lists, may receive a certificate of his qualification from said board, and shall thereupon be permitted by the proper ward officers to cast his ballot as if his name were on said list. The vote in said city shall be by open ballot.

Sect. 8. If this act shall be accepted by the voters of Sagadahoc county as provided in section five all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act shall thereby be repealed.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 11, 1897.

Reported by Mr. FERGUSON, from Sagadahoc₂ County Delegation
and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*