

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 161

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND ONE.

AN ACT to provide for returns of Telegraph and Telephone
Companies to the State.

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

Section 1. Every telegraph or telephone corporation,
2 every company, person or persons doing a telegraph or
3 telephone business within this state, shall annually before
4 the first day of December make a return to the railroad
5 commissioners, on blanks furnished by them under oath of
6 its treasurer or general manager, of all of the property of
7 every name and nature of said corporation, company, per-
8 son or persons, owned, used or controlled by the said
9 corporation, company, person or persons within the State,
10 with the value thereof, including all poles, wires, insulators,

11 transmitters, telephones, batteries, instruments, telegraphic
12 or telephonic apparatus and office furniture, together with
13 a brief description of each and all of the various routes
14 from point to point within the state, owned, used or con-
15 trolled by the said corporations, company, person or per-
16 sons. Said returns shall also show the prices charged for
17 all of the various classes of service rendered by the said
18 corporations, company, person or persons within the
19 state, the gross receipts and expenses of operating and
20 maintaining said corporations or companies.

Sect. 2. For the purpose of verifying the returns pro-
2 vided for in the preceding section, the railroad commis-
3 sioners shall have access to the books of all telegraph or
4 telephone corporations, companies or persons doing a
5 telegraph or telephone business within the state, and any
6 of the said telegraph or telephone corporations, companies
7 or persons doing such telegraph or telephone business
8 within the state which refuses or neglects to make the
9 returns required by law or to exhibit its books to the
10 railroad commissioners when required for the purposes
11 aforesaid, or makes returns which are false, forfeits not
12 less than one thousand dollars nor more than five thousand
13 dollars to be recovered by indictment or by action of debt
14 in any county where such telegraph or telephone corpora-
15 tion, company or person operates or does business.

It shall be the duty of the attorney general of the state
17 to see that the provisions of this act are complied with.

Sect. 3. It shall be the duty of the railroad commis-
2 sioners to make up a report from the returns provided for

3 in the preceding sections which shall be printed, bound
4 and distributed as a part of the railroad commissioners
5 report.

Sect. 4. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, February 14, 1901.

Tabled pending reference by Mr. PLUMMER of Portland, and ordered printed.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*