

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 467

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to provide for the appointment of a commissioner of
highways and economy in municipal expenditures.

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

Section 1. The governor, with the advice and consent of
2 the council, within thirty days after approval of this act,
3 shall appoint a suitable person, who shall be a civil engineer,
4 as commissioner of highways; who shall hold his office for
5 the term of four years and until his successor is appointed
6 and qualified, and shall receive an annual salary of two
7 thousand five hundred dollars, and in addition thereto one
8 thousand dollars for assistant, or clerk hire, the actual
9 amount paid out for his traveling expenses within this

10 State, and such other expenses, not exceeding fifteen hun-
11 dred dollars annually, as may be incurred in the executing
12 of the duties of his office as hereinafter provided, the same
13 to be approved by the governor and council.

Sect. 2. Said commissioner of highways shall be provided
2 with an office at the State capitol. It shall be the duty of
3 said commissioner to compile statistics relating to the public
4 ways in the cities and towns of the State, and to make such
5 investigation relating thereto as he shall deem expedient, in
6 order to secure better and more improved highways in the
7 State. It shall be his duty by means of maps, charts, cuts,
8 drawings, prints, publications, printed or written articles,
9 lectures, or otherwise, to disseminate knowledge throughout
10 the State concerning the best known economical methods for
11 the building and maintaining of highways, including bridges
12 and sidewalks, in the cities and towns of the State, and par-
13 ticularly to impart such information, in manner as aforesaid,
14 to the county commissioners of counties, the street com-
15 missioners of cities, the selectmen of towns, and other
16 municipal officers whose duties it may be to have the care and
17 management of the expenditure of money and the building
18 and keeping in repair of the highways in the State

Said commissioner may be consulted by, and shall give
20 advice to, without charge, all officers of counties, cities, and
21 towns, having care and authority over the public ways, as
22 to their construction, maintenance, alteration, and repair,
23 but such advice shall not impair the legal obligations of any
24 such county, city, or town officer. Said commissioner shall
25 hold each year, under the auspices of the county commission-
26 ers, a meeting in each county, for the open discussion of
27 questions relating to the building and maintaining of public
28 ways, of which due notice shall be given to the towns and
29 cities in each county by the said county commissioners.

Sect. 3. He shall make an annual report to the governor
2 and council of his doings, and expenditures of his office,
3 together with such statements bearing upon the construction
4 and maintenance of ways, and suggestions and recommen-
5 dations concernng the same, as he deems appropriate, includ-
6 ing recommendations for any legislation which to him seems
7 expedient and necessary. His report shall be transmitted to
8 the secretary of State on or before the first Wednesday of
9 January of each year. All maps, plans, statistics and other
10 valuable facts collected and compiled under his direction,
11 shall be preserved in his office, and become the property of
12 the State.

Sect. 4. County commissioners and city and town officers
2 having the care of and authority over public ways and
3 bridges throughout the State shall, on request, furnish said
4 commissioner any information which they may possess and
5 required by him, concerning ways and bridges within their
6 jurisdiction.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Augusta, March 9, 1905.

Reported by Mr. GOODWIN from Committee on Ways and Bridges
and ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*