

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)

SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 11

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to provide a way to free toll bridges.

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

Section 1. The County Commissioners of any county,
2 in which a toll bridge exists or may hereafter be located,
3 are hereby authorized to lay out a county road across any
4 toll bridge and approaches thereto, in their county, upon
5 petition therefor, after notice and hearing in the manner
6 required by the general laws of the State, regulating the
7 laying out of highways. Such petition shall bear the
8 signatures of not less than twenty taxpayers, qualified
9 voters of said county, representing that the said bridge is
10 necessary to the accommodation of public travel and that
11 the payment of tolls over such bridge is burdensome to

12 the traveling public, and praying that the same shall be
13 taken as a county bridge. The damages for laying out said
14 highway shall be ascertained, determined and paid in the
15 same manner as in taking lands for highways, and persons
16 and corporations aggrieved shall have the same rights of
17 appeal to be enforced in the same manner as in the case
18 of highways.

Sect. 2. In the event that the County Commissioners shall
2 decide to make said bridge a county bridge, said Commis-
3 sioners may, for the purpose of defraying the cost or dam-
4 age for the taking and repairs of said bridge, maintain the
5 same for a period not exceeding six years, as a toll bridge,
6 if, in their opinion, such is necessary and for the best inter-
7 ests of the county. All money received for tolls after such
8 taking shall be set aside as fast as accumulated, together
9 with interest and accretions and shall constitute a sinking
10 fund for the payment of any bonds issued or other indebt-
11 edness incurred by the county for damages or expenses in
12 taking said bridge.

Sect. 3. For the foregoing purposes, as soon as the County
2 Commissioners shall certify to the Governor and Council
3 that they have laid out a public way across said toll bridge
4 and paid the damages therefor as in the case of highways
5 and abolished the tolls thereof, the Governor and Council
6 shall draw their warrant for one-third of the sum so
7 expended for damages aside from tolls received not exceed-
8 ing \$10,000 for any one bridge, and thereafter such bridge
9 and its approaches shall be public highway, and shall be
10 kept safe and convenient for public travel by said com-
11 missioners, and maintained by the county free of toll.

Sect. 4. When a petition is presented respecting a toll
2 bridge in two counties, the same shall have the signatures
3 of at least twenty qualified persons in each county. The
4 Commissioners receiving the petition may call a meeting
5 of the Commissioners of both counties as provided by
6 Revised Statutes, Chapter 23, Section 12, and they shall
7 proceed in the manner provided in the case of ways in two
8 or more counties. Damages shall be apportioned between
9 the two counties in proportion to their last State valuation
10 prior to such location. *In like manner the funds reim-
11 bursed by the State shall be apportioned according to such
12 valuation.

Sect. 5. This act shall take effect when approved by the
2 Governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, January 16, 1907.

Tabled pending reference to a committee, by Mr. GLEASON of Mexico, and ordered printed.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*