

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE.

No. 20

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to provide for State Aid, and for the Expenditure of  
Other Public Moneys, in the permanent improvement of Main  
Highways or State Roads.

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

Section 1. The objects of this act are to obtain a more  
2 uniform system for the permanent improvement of main  
3 highways throughout the state, to secure the co-operation of  
4 the municipalities and the state in providing means therefor,  
5 and to provide for more efficient and economical expendi-  
6 ture of moneys appropriated for highway construction and  
7 repair.

Sect. 2. The following described roads shall be considered  
2 main highways or state roads within the meaning of this act;

3 in towns which have already availed themselves of the pro-  
4 visions of sections ninety-nine to one hundred and five of  
5 chapter twenty-three, Revised Statutes, nineteen hundred and  
6 three and acts amendatory thereof and additional thereto,  
7 such roads as have heretofore been designated state roads by  
8 the county commissioners; in towns which have not here-  
9 tofore availed themselves of the provisions of sections  
10 ninety-nine to one hundred and five of chapter twenty-three,  
11 Revised Statutes, nineteen hundred and three and acts amend-  
12 atory thereof and additional thereto, but which vote to accept  
13 the provisions of this act, such roads as may hereafter be  
14 designated as the state road, under the provisions of this act.  
15 When notified by the state commissioner of highways that  
16 any town has voted to accept the provisions of this act, it  
17 shall be the duty of the county commissioners of the county  
18 in which such town is located, on or before May tenth of  
19 the year of such notification, to make such designation and  
20 the clerk of each board of county commissioners shall return  
21 forthwith to the state commissioner of highways a record of  
22 their proceedings in each town and a description of each  
23 road designated as state road.

Provided, however, that upon petition of a majority of the  
25 legal voters in any town presented to the state commissioner  
26 of highways stating that in the judgment of the petitioners  
27 the road as designated by the county commissioners is not the  
28 main traveled thoroughfare in that town and that public  
29 convenience would be better served by the designation of  
30 some other road as the state road, which other road must be  
31 described in the petition, it shall be the duty of the state

32 commissioner of highways after such notice as he may order  
33 to give a public hearing upon said petition at some con-  
34 venient place where all parties interested may be heard. The  
35 state commissioner of highways, the member of the gov-  
36 ernor's council from the district in which the town is located  
37 and any county commissioner from an adjoining county  
38 whom the state commissioner of highways shall select shall  
39 hear said parties interested and designate the state road,  
40 which designation shall be final. Members of the governor's  
41 council and county commissioners when hearing said peti-  
42 tions shall receive five dollars per day and expenses to be  
43 paid together with advertising and incidental expenses from  
44 the treasury of the county in which the town is located. In  
45 case the decision is against the petitioners said board shall  
46 order in their decision that the petitioners repay to the county  
47 within a fixed time all said costs in connection with the hear-  
48 ing of the petition. In case such payment shall not be made  
49 within the time so fixed then the treasurer of the county  
50 within which the petition was heard shall commence an  
51 action of debt against said petitioners or any of them in the  
52 name of the county for the recovery of said costs and  
53 expenses.

Provided, further, that when the state road in any town has  
55 been reconstructed in a permanent manner within the mean-  
56 ing of this act it shall be the duty of the county commis-  
57 sioners to designate the next important main thoroughfare  
58 as state road. Municipal officers may notify the state com-  
59 missioner of highways when in their opinion the state road  
60 is entirely reconstructed as above, but such notification must

61 be made immediately upon the completion of the road. It  
62 shall then be the duty of the state commissioner of highways,  
63 together with the county commissioners of the county in  
64 which the road is located to make an inspection of the road  
65 and to determine whether or not it is complete. If they find  
66 the road to be not complete they shall specify to the municipal  
67 officers in what particulars and the municipal officers shall,  
68 in their next proposal for expenditure of joint funds specify  
69 that it is desired to use said joint funds in completing said  
70 road according to said specifications returned by the state  
71 commissioner of highways and the county commissioners.  
72 If the road is complete the county commissioners shall desig-  
73 nate another state road as provided in this section.

Sect. 3. To carry out the provisions of this act there is  
2 hereby created and established a state highway department  
3 whose chief officer shall be called the state commissioner of  
4 highways. Said commissioner shall be a civil engineer and  
5 shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and con-  
6 sent of the council, within ten days after the approval of this  
7 act. The term of office of said commissioner shall be for  
8 years and until his successor is appointed and qualified.  
9 He shall receive an annual salary of two thousand five hun-  
10 dred dollars, and in addition thereto such actual expenses,  
11 not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars annually, as he may  
12 personally incur in the execution of the duties of his office,  
13 the same to be approved by the governor and council. Said  
14 commissioner shall be furnished with suitable offices in the  
15 city of Augusta properly provided with all necessary furni-  
16 ture, equipment and stationery, and he shall personally super-  
17 intend the work of the department. Said commissioner may

18 appoint, if the work of the department requires it subject  
19 to the approval of the governor and council, one assistant  
20 commissioner who shall be a civil engineer and experienced  
21 in road building. Said assistant commissioner shall receive  
22 an annual salary of                      dollars and actual  
23 expenses incurred when on official business within the state,  
24 the same to be approved by the governor and council. He  
25 may also appoint one clerk and bookkeeper at a salary of  
26                      dollars and one stenographer at such salary  
27 as may be determined upon and approved by the governor  
28 and council.

He may also employ such other help as the execution of  
30 this act shall make necessary upon terms to be approved by  
31 the governor and council.

All salaries and expenses called for in this section shall be  
33 charged against administration except as hereinafter pro-  
34 vided, and shall be paid out of any moneys appropriated  
35 under this act.

Sect. 4. Each town shall, of the amount of money annually  
2 raised and appropriated for the repair of its highways, set  
3 apart the following amounts, to be used for the permanent  
4 improvement of its main highways, such improvements to be  
5 under the advice of the state commissioner of highways.

Towns having a valuation of less than two million dollars,  
7 one dollar on each one thousand dollars of their valuation;  
8 towns of two million dollars, and less than three million dol-  
9 lars valuation, seventy-five cents on each one thousand dol-  
10 lars; towns of three million dollars and less than five million  
11 dollars, fifty cents on each one thousand dollars; towns of

12 five million dollars and less than fifteen million dollars,  
13 thirty-three and one-third cents on each one thousand dol-  
14 lars; and towns of fifteen million dollars and upwards,  
15 twenty-five cents on each one thousand dollars.

And the commissioners of each county within which are  
17 located unincorporated townships shall set apart of the  
18 money raised and appropriated for the repair of highways  
19 in such unincorporated townships, one dollar on each one  
20 thousand dollars of the valuation of each unincorporated  
21 township in which there are highways, to be expended for  
22 permanent improvements of said highways as indicated in  
23 the first paragraph of this section.

Sect. 5. If any city or town or organized plantation or the  
2 county commissioners for any unincorporated township  
3 desire state aid, as contemplated by this act, for the per-  
4 manent improvement of the main highways within such city,  
5 town, organized plantation or unincorporate township, in  
6 addition to the improvements provided for by the amount  
7 set apart, as required by section four of this act, such city  
8 or town or organized plantation and the commissioners of  
9 the county for such unincorporated township, shall raise,  
10 appropriate, and set apart an additional sum equal to fifty  
11 per cent of the amount required to be set apart for permanent  
12 improvements under section four of this act, and all money  
13 set apart by any city, town or organized plantation or the  
14 county commissioners for any unincorporated township  
15 under this section, meaning the additional sum equal to fifty  
16 per cent of the amount required to be set apart under section  
17 four of this act, shall be raised, appropriated, and set apart

18 in addition to the amount regularly raised for the mainte-  
19 nance of highways. Application for such state aid in any  
20 year, and notice of the raising, appropriation, and setting  
21 apart of such additional sum by any city or town, or organ-  
22 ized plantation or by the commissioners of any county enti-  
23 tled to state aid, shall, on or before April fifteenth of such  
24 year, be made and given to the state commissioner of high-  
25 ways by the clerks of such towns, cities, plantations, or  
26 boards of county commissioners. Otherwise they shall not  
27 be entitled to such aid for such year.

And it shall be lawful for any city to make appropriation  
29 in order to secure state aid as contemplated by this section  
30 at any meeting of the city government held between January  
31 first and April fifteenth of the year for which the appropria-  
32 tion is made.

It shall be the duty of the selectmen of each town to insert  
34 in the warrant for each annual town meeting an article call-  
35 ing upon the voters to vote "yes" or "no" on the adoption  
36 of the provisions of this act relating to the appropriation of  
37 money necessary to entitle the town to state aid for high-  
38 ways, for the year in which such meeting is to be held.

Sect. 6. The state commissioner of highways shall appor-  
2 tion from the amount apportioned under the provisions of  
3 this act, to each city, town, organized plantation and unin-  
4 corporated township which has applied for state aid and has  
5 raised, appropriated, and set apart the additional amount  
6 provided for in section five, entitling it to state aid, for the  
7 permanent improvement of its highways, for each dollar so  
8 set apart by such city, town, or organized plantation, or for



9 such unincorporated township, under sections four and five,  
10 the following amounts:

Towns, organized plantations and unincorporated town-  
12 ships, having a valuation of less than one hundred thousand  
13 dollars, two dollars for each one dollar set apart under sec-  
14 tions four and five; towns, organized plantations and unin-  
15 corporated townships having a valuation of one hundred  
16 thousand dollars and less than two hundred and fifty thou-  
17 sand dollars, one dollar and fifty cents; towns, organized  
18 plantations and unincorporated townships having a valuation  
19 of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and less than five  
20 hundred thousand dollars, one dollar and twenty-five cents;  
21 towns having a valuation of five hundred thousand dollars  
22 and less than one million dollars, one dollar; cities and  
23 towns having a valuation of one million dollars and less than  
24 three million dollars, seventy-five cents and cities and towns  
25 having a valuation of three million dollars and upwards,  
26 fifty cents.

Sect. 7. The amount of money set apart by such city, town,  
2 organized plantation, or for such unincorporated township  
3 as applies for state aid, as provided for in sections four and  
4 five, with the amount apportioned by the state commissioner  
5 of highways, as provided for in section six, shall constitute  
6 a joint fund for the permanent improvement of the state road  
7 in each of said cities, towns, organized plantations or unin-  
8 corporated townships. Provided, however, that no part of  
9 said joint fund shall be expended on any highway within  
10 the compact portion of any city or village, such compact  
11 portion to be determined by the state commissioner of high-

12 ways, except in towns of less than two thousand population.  
13 And on or before May fifteenth of each year it shall be the  
14 duty of the officers having jurisdiction over highways in said  
15 cities, towns, organized plantations and unincorporated  
16 townships to file with the state commissioner of highways a  
17 proposal setting forth the location on the state road and  
18 nature of the permanent improvements desired to be made.  
19 The state commissioner of highways, shall upon receipt of  
20 this proposal notify the said officers whether or not the pro-  
21 posed location and the proposed work meets with his  
22 approval, and if not, his reasons therefor.

Such cities, towns, organized plantations and unincorpo-  
24 rated townships as do not apply for state aid under section  
25 five of this act may expend the money set apart under sec-  
26 tion four for permanent improvements upon such highways  
27 as the officers having jurisdiction over highways in such  
28 cities, towns, organized plantations or unincorporated town-  
29 ships may designate. And on or before June first of each  
30 year it shall be the duty of the said officers having jurisdic-  
31 tion over highways in said cities, towns, organized planta-  
32 tions and unincorporated townships to file with the state  
33 commissioner of highways a proposal setting forth the loca-  
34 tion and nature of the permanent improvements desired to  
35 be made. The state commissioner of highways shall upon  
36 receipt of this proposal notify the said officers whether or  
37 not the proposed work meets with his approval and if not,  
38 his reason therefor. He may also upon the request of the  
39 said officers of any city not employing a city engineer, or  
40 town or organized plantation or unincorporated township,

41 furnish to such city, town, organized plantation or unincor-  
42 porated township, free of charge, the services of any engi-  
43 neer in the employ of the state under this act for the purpose  
44 of consultation and advice concerning the construction,  
45 improvement and repair of the highways in such city, town,  
46 organized plantation or unincorporated township. And any  
47 special expenses incurred in providing such engineers shall  
48 be charged against administration and shall be paid for out  
49 of the general appropriation made under this act. But  
50 towns may, if they see fit, pay for such services out of any  
51 moneys appropriated for highway repairs. The officers  
52 having jurisdiction over highways in such cities, towns,  
53 organized plantations, or incorporated townships as shall  
54 make improvements under section four of this act, and do  
55 not take advantage of state aid, shall file with the state com-  
56 missioner of highways on or before November first a state-  
57 ment that said improvements have been made according to  
58 the proposal filed by them on the first day of June and  
59 accepted by him, together with a detailed statement of the  
60 cost of same.

Any part of said joint fund not expended during the year  
62 for which it is set apart and apportioned, may be expended  
63 during the succeeding year. If, in the opinion of the state  
64 commissioner of highways, said joint fund or any part  
65 thereof, for any year cannot be advantageously expended, the  
66 same may be expended the succeeding year.

Sect. 8. As soon as the location and general character of  
2 the proposed work has been determined upon in towns  
3 where one thousand dollars or more of joint fund is to be

4 expended, under the provisions of this act, it shall be the  
5 duty of the State commissioner of highways to make sur-  
6 veys, plans, estimates, and specifications for the proposed  
7 improvement. These plans and specifications shall conform  
8 substantially to the proposal filed May fifteenth and agreed  
9 upon between the state commissioner of highways and the  
10 selectmen or other officers having jurisdiction over high-  
11 ways. Changes of grade and alignment may be made when  
12 the road will be benefited thereby and authority is hereby  
13 given to make such changes. Said plans and specifications  
14 shall, upon completion be forwarded to the selectmen or  
15 other officers having jurisdiction over highways in the said  
16 town in which the particular work is located, whose duty it  
17 shall be to immediately advertise for bids for doing said  
18 work according to said plans and specifications in two or  
19 more public newspapers printed or circulated in the county  
20 for three weeks successively, at least once in each week.  
21 This advertisement shall state the place where bidders may  
22 examine said plans and specifications, and the time and place  
23 where the bids for said work will be received by the board of  
24 selectmen or other local officers having jurisdiction. Each  
25 bidder must accompany his bid with a certified check pay-  
26 able to the treasurer of the city, town, plantation or county  
27 as the case may be, for ten per cent. of the amount of his bid  
28 as a guarantee that if the work is awarded to him, he will  
29 enter into a contract with said board for the same. All bids  
30 so submitted shall be immediately and publicly read at the  
31 time for opening the same, as stated in said advertisement,  
32 and referred to the state commissioner of highways for his

33 approval. The selectmen or other local officers having juris-  
34 diction and the state commissioner of highways shall have  
35 the right to reject any or all bids, if in their opinion good  
36 cause exists therefor, but otherwise they shall award the  
37 contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The successful  
38 bidder shall give satisfactory evidence of his ability to per-  
39 form the contract, and shall within fifteen days from the  
40 awarding of the contract also furnish bond in the penal sum  
41 of at least the amount of the contract with two or more  
42 sureties, owners of real estate in the county or a surety or  
43 trust company authorized to transact business within the  
44 state to be approved by both the board receiving the bids  
45 and by the state commissioner of highways, conditioned for  
46 the faithful performance of said work in strict conformity  
47 with the contract, plans and specifications for the same. The  
48 contract, plans and specifications shall be executed in tripli-  
49 cate, one copy going to the contractor, one to the local board  
50 of officers having jurisdiction and one to the State commis-  
51 sioner of highways. Whenever the mayor and city council  
52 or such other board as has jurisdiction over highways in  
53 a city or the selectmen of any town, or the assessors of any  
54 organized plantation or the county commissioners for  
55 unincorporated townships shall desire in behalf of such city,  
56 town, plantation or unincorporated township to bid upon  
57 work located within said city, town, plantation or unincor-  
58 porated township, they shall submit their bids to the state  
59 commissioner of highways at least one day prior to the time  
60 specified for the opening of the other bids as stated in the  
61 advertisement for bids, and all bids submitted in behalf of

62 towns shall be subject to the requirements made and pro-  
63 vided for in this section, except that no certified check or  
64 bond shall be required of any town or city making bids or  
65 accepting contract for construction.

No bids in behalf of towns shall be opened by the state  
67 commissioner of highways until after the other bids for the  
68 same work shall have been publicly opened and read by the  
69 board receiving them, as required by this section, and for-  
70 warded to the state commissioner of highways. If the state  
71 commissioner of highways shall find from the bids so sub-  
72 mitted that the bid in behalf of the town is the lowest, the  
73 state commissioner of highways shall thereupon award the  
74 contract to such town, whereupon the board of local officers  
75 having jurisdiction over highways in such town shall forth-  
76 with execute a contract in behalf of such town with the state  
77 commissioner of highways in behalf of the state, to fulfill all  
78 the requirements and terms of the specifications and plans  
79 for said work, under which their bid was submitted. The  
80 state commissioner of highways, on all work executed by  
81 contract, shall make such inspection from time to time as he  
82 may deem necessary and all material furnished and labor  
83 performed shall be to his satisfaction.

The state commissioner of highways may appoint inspect-  
85 ors if he deem it necessary to supervise the construction of  
86 all roads built by contract under the provisions of this act.  
87 He shall prescribe their salaries which shall be satisfactory  
88 to the Governor and Council; said salaries however and any  
89 special expense incurred in making surveys, plans and lay-  
90 outs for contract work shall be charged against the joint  
91 fund for the particular work in question.

The inspector shall require all provisions of the contract and  
93 specifications to be strictly adhered to by the contractors and  
94 immediately after the completion of each contract and before  
95 final payment is made the inspector shall make oath that all  
96 work has been completed according to contract, plans and  
97 specifications.

In towns where less than one thousand dollars of joint fund  
99 is to be expended the state commissioner of highways may,  
100 upon application of the selectmen or other officers having  
101 jurisdiction, or when in his opinion more economical results  
102 will be obtained by so doing, make surveys, plans, estimates  
103 and layouts and furnish such superintendence as may be nec-  
104 essary for the proper prosecution and completion of state  
105 road work. Any expense incurred in doing such work shall  
106 be a proper charge against the joint fund for that particular  
107 work. A certificate of the cost of every road constructed  
108 under the provisions of this act not upon a contract shall be  
109 filed with the State commissioner of highways by the select-  
110 men or authorized authority over the work of the town in  
111 which such road shall have been constructed on or before  
112 November first. Survey notes, copies of all plans and con-  
113 tracts together with all other records pertaining to the  
114 expenditure of any State moneys under this act or any sub-  
115 sequent act for the improvement of highways shall be filed  
116 and remain of record in the office of the State commissioner  
117 of highways.

Sect. 9. Payment of the State's share of the joint fund for  
2 any town shall be made as follows: When the selectmen or  
3 said town shall certify under oath to the State commissioner

4 of highways, that said town has paid out on account of the  
5 State road construction the full amount of its share of the  
6 joint fund, the State commissioner of highways shall notify  
7 the Governor and Council of that fact and they shall draw a  
8 warrant upon the State treasurer in favor of the town for one  
9 half the State's share of said joint fund, for said town. And  
10 upon the completion of work in said town the State commis-  
11 sioner of highways shall notify the Governor and Council of  
12 the amount due said town and they shall draw a warrant upon  
13 the state treasurer in favor of the town for said amount.  
14 Provided, however, that the State's payment may in the dis-  
15 cretion of the State commissioner of highways be made in  
16 one sum after completion of the work. Work performed by  
17 individuals or corporations, not towns, under contract shall be  
18 paid for as follows: At or near the end of each calendar  
19 month during the progress of the work the State commis-  
20 sioner of highways shall certify to the selectmen of each town  
21 in which such contract work is being performed, the amount  
22 and value of the work done on such contract during the month  
23 together with a statement of eighty-five per cent. of the value  
24 of such work which shall be the amount due the contractor  
25 and payable to him by the town treasurer not later than the  
26 fifteenth of the month succeeding the month in which the  
27 work was done; provided, however, that thirty days after the  
28 State commissioner of highways shall certify to the selectmen  
29 that all work in connection with any such contract has been  
30 completed, inspected and accepted, the full unpaid balance of  
31 said contract as shown in said certificate shall be payable to  
32 the contractor by the town and not before.



Sect. 10. Any highway within any city or town  
2 improved by the expenditure of said joint fund shall there-  
3 after be maintained, as are other highways, within the city,  
4 town, plantation or township within which it is located, and  
5 to the satisfaction of the State commissioner of highways.

Any town which neglects or refused to make repairs on its  
7 State road within sixty days after being notified by the State  
8 commissioner of highways what repairs are necessary to be  
9 made, shall not be eligible to State aid the succeeding year.  
10 Nor shall said town again be eligible to State aid until all  
11 repairs required by the State commissioner of highways have  
12 been made in a manner satisfactory to him.

Sect. 11. The State shall not be liable to any person or  
2 corporation for damages arising from the construction,  
3 rebuilding, improvement or maintenance of any highway  
4 under this act. In case any person or persons or corporation  
5 shall sustain damage by any change in grade or by taking of  
6 land to alter the location of any highway which may be  
7 improved under this act the person or persons or corporation  
8 injured thereby shall be entitled to compensation to be  
9 assessed by the officers having jurisdiction where the road  
10 lies, said damage to be assessed and paid according to pro-  
11 visions of statute. In case the award of damages is not satis-  
12 factory, parties aggrieved shall have the same right of appeal  
13 as is provided by law in the case of damages for altering  
14 highways.

Sect. 12. To provide funds for the purposes of this act,  
2 there shall be assessed annually on all property in the State a  
3 tax of one mill, on each dollar of valuation and the money

4 deriveed from said tax shall be for the exclusive uses and  
5 purposes set forth in this act. Any unexpended balance at  
6 the end of any year shall be added to the fund for the next  
7 year. From this fund shall be paid all expenses of administra-  
8 tion and all State aid for road improvement as provided for  
9 under this act.

Sect. 13. After providing for the expenses of administra-  
2 tion and for the payment of State aid applied for, the balance  
3 of the fund or any part of it may be expended by the State  
4 commissioner of highways in building connecting roads  
5 between State roads as designated by the county commis-  
6 sioners with the object of establishing as far as possible a  
7 complete system of continuous main highways throughout the  
8 State. Provided, however, that no expenditure shall be made  
9 under this section in any town which shall fail to accept the  
10 provisions of this act as to application for State aid and  
11 expenditure of joint funds. Any expenditures made under  
12 authority of this section shall be apportioned among the sev-  
13 eral counties of the State each year on the basis of total road  
14 mileage in the county to total mileage in the state and the  
15 location of roads to be improved under this section shall be  
16 determined for each county by the State commissioner of  
17 highways and the county commissioners of the county. The  
18 same general provisions made for the construction and main-  
19 tenance of other State roads under this act shall apply to  
20 roads constructed under authority of this section; except that  
21 the whole cost of construction may be paid by the State.

Provided, further, that the State commissioner of highways  
23 may, subject to the approval of the Governor and Council,

24 apportion in any one year, in addition to the amounts appor-  
25 tioned under section six, not exceeding twenty-five percentum  
26 of said unexpended balance of the appropriation hereunder,  
27 after providing for the payment of administrative expenses  
28 and State aid applied for, to towns in which the joint fund is  
29 insufficient to properly complete the work proposed or under-  
30 taken and necessary to be done as one job.

Sect. 14. 'The fiscal year for the purposes of this act shall  
2 end December thirty-one. Wherever the word "valuation"  
3 is used in this act it shall mean the valuation last made by the  
4 state board of assessors. Wherever the word city, town or  
5 organized plantation or unincorporated township is used  
6 singly in this act and the phrase or clause in which it is used  
7 could as well apply to all four classes of political subdivisions  
8 or to any other one class it shall be understood to so apply.

Sect. 15. In connection with the foregoing duties the state  
2 commissioner of highways, having first regard for the per-  
3 formance of those duties, shall also compile statistics relat-  
4 ing to the public ways in the cities and towns of the state,  
5 and make such investigation relating thereto as he shall deem  
6 expedient, in order to secure better and more improved  
7 highways in the state. He shall also by means of maps,  
8 charts, cuts, drawings, prints, publications, printed or written  
9 articles, lectures, or otherwise, disseminate knowledge  
10 throughout the state concerning the best known economical  
11 methods for the building and maintaining of highways,  
12 including bridges, in the cities and towns of the state, and  
13 particularly to impart such information, in manner as afore-  
14 said, 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  
17 and management of the expenditure of money and the build-  
18 ing and keeping in repair of the highways in the state. Said  
19 commissioner shall hold each year under the auspices of the  
20 county commissioners, a meeting in each county for the open  
21 discussion of questions relating to the building and main-  
22 taining of public ways, of which due notice shall be given  
23 to the towns and cities in each county by the said county  
24 commissioners.

Sect. 16. The state commissioner of highways shall make  
2 an annual report to the governor and council of the opera-  
3 tions of the state highway department. This report shall  
4 show the number of miles, cost and character of the roads  
5 built under its direction, together with a statement of  
6 expenses of the department and such other information  
7 concerning the condition of public roads of the state and the  
8 progress of their improvement as may be proper. He shall  
9 also make recommendations for any legislation which to him  
10 seems expedient and necessary.

His report shall be transmitted to the secretary of state as  
12 soon after the first Wednesday of January of each year as  
13 possible.

Sect. 17. County commissioners and city and town officers  
2 having the care of and authority over public ways and bridges  
3 throughout the state shall, on request, furnish said commis-  
4 sioner any information which they may possess and required  
5 by him, concerning ways and bridges within their jurisdic-  
6 tion.

Sect. 18. Sections ninety-nine to one hundred and five  
2 inclusive of chapter twenty-three, Revised Statutes of nine-  
3 teen hundred and three and acts amendatory thereof and  
4 chapter one hundred and forty-six of the Public Laws of  
5 nineteen hundred and five are hereby repealed.

Sect. 19. This act shall take effect ten days after its  
2 approval.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, January 18, 1907.

Tabled pending reference to a committee by Mr. KNOWLTON of  
Monson, and ordered printed.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*