

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 505

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE, in favor of building bridges on the road as travelled from the Northeast Carry on the West Branch of the Penobscot River to Chesuncook Lake.

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars be and is hereby appropriated to be used in the construction of bridges on the road as travelled from the Northeast Carry on the West Branch of the Penobscot River to Chesuncook, all in the County of Piscataquis. Said money to be expended under the direction of the County Commissioners of the County of Piscataquis.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

At the Northeast Carry on Moosehead Lake there is a large hotel and there is a highway leading from said Northeast Carry across said carry some two miles to the West Branch of Penobscot River. On the east side of the West Branch of the Penobscot River the people have travelled for some fifty years down to Chesuncook Lake. This road as travelled crosses Lobster Stream, which is the outlet of Lobster Lake, also crosses Moose Horn Stream and Pine Stream. These are three comparatively large streams of water. It also crosses some other streams and brooks.

Lobster Stream is only some two miles in length. The rise and fall of the water in Lobster Lake affects in a large degree the volume of water in this stream. This stream freezes only in the coldest weather. It is late in the fall or early part of the winter before the stream can be crossed on the road. After the highway itself freezes on account of the rise and fall and warmth of the water it is not safe to cross. Accidents have occurred from time to time. The expense of building a bridge across this stream would be some \$800, which would require a bridge of 250 feet in length.

Pine Stream is quite a large stream at the present time. It cannot be crossed except by bridge, which would require a bridge of some 200 feet in length to cross this stream. Moose Horn Stream is not so large as either of the other two, but it cannot be crossed except by bridge. The other streams also require bridges in order to cross the same.

This road is the main thoroughfare from the upper Moosehead Lake region to the Chesuncook, Allegash and Chamberlain Lake, all of them in the north country. The volume of travel over this road is large. There are seasons of the year when people cannot go from Northeast Carry to Chesuncook bay in the fall and spring, and no one can travel in boats up and down the Penobscot River. They cannot travel in boats many times

during the summer season on the river on account of the extreme low water. It is, therefore, necessary that there should be bridges over these streams and brooks in order to get from Chesuncook Lake to the Northeast Carry. There is a mail route from the Northeast Carry to Chesuncook.

The amount of summer travel and sportsmen with their guides has increased to a great extent in the last few years, and there are a large number of people who require this road to be in condition to be travelled at all seasons of the year. Such bridges as have been maintained have been by those people who have lived and do live at Chesuncook Lake and on the road. There is a population at the present time of 70 people at Chesuncook Lake alone. There are many others scattered all through that north section who live there and have occasion to use this road.

The distance from Northeast Carry to Chesuncook is 20 miles. There is no highway legally established from the Northeast Carry to Chesuncook.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, March 6, 1909.

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

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*