

# SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

### HOUSE.

No. 655

### STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend section one of chapter 52 of the Revised Statutes relating to the management and operation of steam railroads.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. Section one of chapter 52 of the Revised Sta-2 tutes is hereby amended by adding to said section one, the 3 following: 'And said hearing shall be held in the county in 4 which the complaint originates if requested,' so that said 5 section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 1. Any railroad corporation may establish and 7 collect, for its sole benefit, fares, tolls and charges, upon all 8 passengers and property conveyed and transported on its

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9 railroad, at such rates as may be determined by the direc-10 tors thereof, and shall have a lien on its freight therefor; II and may from time to time by its directors regulate the use 12 of its road; provided that such rates or fares, tolls and 13 charges, and regulations are at all times subject to alteration 14 by the legislature, or by such officers or persons as the 15 legislature may appoint for the purpose, anything in the 16 charter of such corporation to the contrary notwithstand-17 ing; and provided further, that upon what shall, at any time, 18 be deemed by the railroad commissioners a sufficient com-10 plaint, by interested and responsible parties, that the tolls 20 are unreasonably high, said commissioners may revise and 21 establish them, after due notice and hearing, for a time not 22 exceeding one year. But the commissioners before direct-23 ing said hearing, shall give opportunity to the company com-24 plained of, to reply to the charge. And said hearing shall be 25 held in the county in which the complaint originates if re-26 quested.'

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, March 17, 1909.

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Reported by Mr. JONES from Committee on Railroads and Expresses and ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, Clerk.