

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 126

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT providing for the appointment of a Water Storage
Commission.

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

Section 1. The Governor, with the advice and consent of
2 the Council is authorized to appoint three citizens of this
3 State, one of whom shall be a civil engineer, who, together
4 with the Governor and the State Land Agent, shall consti-
5 tute a Commission to be known as the Water Storage Com-
6 mission.

Sect. 2. With the exception of the civil engineer appointed
2 under the provisions of this act a member of the board, they
3 shall receive no salary, but shall be paid their actual and
4 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their

5 duties. The salary of the civil engineer above specified shall
6 not exceed eighteen hundred dollars per year.

The office of such commission shall be at the State House in
8 the city of Augusta. The said board may appoint a secre-
9 tary who shall be paid at a salary not to exceed six hundred
10 dollars per year.

Sect. 3. The Commission is authorized and directed to de-
2 vise plans for the progressive development of the water-
3 powers of the State, under State ownership, control and
4 maintenance for the public use and benefit and for the in-
5 crease of the public revenue.

Sect. 4. The Commission shall collect information relating
2 to the waterpowers of the State and shall devise plans for
3 the development of such water power, as it deems of value,
4 and may devise plans for the development of such other
5 water powers as shall be brought to its attention by the
6 mayor of any city or the municipal officers of any town or
7 plantation, verified and filed with it, praying for the develop-
8 ment of such water powers. Each such petition shall show
9 and set forth the public purposes to be served by the develop-
10 ment therein proposed, and the commission may subpoena
11 the petitioner or petitioners and such other persons as may
12 be deemed desirable, to appear before it and testify under
13 oath, which oath may be administered by any member of the
14 commission, as to the statements made in the petition, and as
15 to other matters relating to the subject thereof.

Sect. 5. The Commission shall present to the Legislature
2 on or before the fifteenth day of January, in the year of our

3 Lord nineteen hundred and eleven, a report showing the
4 progress made in its investigation, and shall, if practicable,
5 complete its investigation to such an extent as will enable it
6 to devise a comprehensive and practical plan for the general
7 development and conservation of the water powers of the
8 State, and shall, if practicable, make the final report of such
9 plan to the Legislature on or before the fifteenth day of
10 January, in the year nineteen hundred and eleven.

Sect. 6. If any plan devised by the commission shall in-
2 clude the construction of a dam or dams upon any river or
3 water course, the commission shall ascertain and report as
4 nearly as practicable, the water storage capacity in cubit feet
5 of the reservoir created by each such proposed dam, the
6 recorded rainfall on the water shed above such proposed dam
7 and the maximum, minimum and average flow of water, per
8 second, in cubit feet, during each month in the year, at the
9 point where it is proposed to locate such dam. They shall,
10 as nearly as practicable, estimate the water horse power
11 which would be developed at such proposed dam, the proba-
12 bility of selling such water power, and the probable gross and
13 net revenues from both direct and indirect sources which
14 would be derived from the sale of such power at such pro-
15 posed dam. It shall also state the relation of such gross and
16 net revenues to the total cost of the construction, annual
17 maintenance and depreciation, including the cost of necessary
18 lands and riparian rights, and cost of acquiring them, and
19 after deducting the annual cost of maintenance and depre-

20 ciation, the net revenues which would annually be derived
21 therefrom, and the length of time in which such net revenues
22 would pay off the whole cost of construction, lands and
23 riparian rights with the interest thereon.

Sect. 7. Surveys, plans, maps, calculations and estimates
2 of cost may be made to determine the feasibility of any
3 specific project of water power development.

Sect. 8. The Commission in its report shall treat the gen-
2 eral plan it shall devise and recommend for the development
3 of the water power of the State as one State project, and
4 shall treat the specific and separate schemes of development
5 as parts of the whole, in order that the Legislature and the
6 people may have before them at once the most complete and
7 comprehensive statement of the possibilities of the water
8 power of the State and detailed as well as the aggregate cost
9 of the development, in such general plan proposed to be
10 made.

Sect. 9. The Commission shall have power to appoint such
2 engineers, assistant engineers and experts, fitted by experi-
3 ence to advise the commission and conduct under its direc-
4 tion the surveys, and the preparation of plans, maps, calcula-
5 tions and estimates as may be necessary within any appro-
6 priation which may be available therefor.

Sect. 10. The Commission shall ascertain what one or
2 more townships or parts of townships of land may be pur-
3 chased by the State and the cost thereof at or near the head-
4 waters of our river systems or in the vicinity of Mt. Katah-

5 din, with all the necessary data for a correct understanding
6 of their market value or as a forest reserve or for any pur-
7 pose beneficial to the State.

The Commission may include such other matters as it may
9 deem proper in its report to the Legislature.

Sect. 11. The sum of five thousand dollars for the year
2 1909 and five thousand dollars for the year 1910, or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of
4 any fund in the treasury of the State, not otherwise appro-
5 priated, carry out the provisions of this act.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

February 4, 1909.

Presented by Mr. HAMILTON of York and on his motion
tabled for printing pending reference to Committee on Interior
Waters.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.