

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 366

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to create a State 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
2 of the council, is authorized to appoint three citizens of the
3 State, who, together with the governor and the State land
4 agent, shall constitute a commission to be known as the
5 State Water Storage Commission, of which the governor
6 shall be chairman. As members of said commission, they
7 shall receive no salaries but shall be paid their actual and
8 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
9 duties. The office of the commission shall be at the State
10 House in the land office in the city of Augusta. The com-

11 mission may appoint a secretary who shall be paid a salary
12 not to exceed six hundred dollars per annum, who shall
13 work in conjunction with the land agent.

Sect. 2. The commission shall proceed at once to collect
2 information relating to the water powers of the State, the
3 flow of rivers and their drainage area, the location, nature
4 and size of all lakes and ponds in the State and their re-
5 spective value and capacity as storage reservoirs, and such
6 other hydrographic data as they may deem of value and
7 of assistance to them in devising the best methods for the
8 improvement of the natural storage basins of the State
9 and the creation of new storage reservoirs, with a view to
10 conserving and increasing the capacity of the water powers
11 of the State.

Sect. 3. The commission shall, so far as possible, work
2 in conjunction with the State Survey Commission, and with
3 such State Survey Commission join with the United States
4 Geological Survey in making a topographical survey of
5 the State in so far as it relates to the collection of data
6 bearing on the water powers and water storage reservoirs
7 of the State. The State Survey Commission shall place at
8 the disposal of the State Water Storage Commission all
9 information, and copies of reports, maps and plans col-
10 lected by them and bearing on the hydrography of the
11 State.

Sect. 4. Every person, firm or corporation before com-
2 mencing the erection of a dam for the purpose of devel-

3 oping any water power in this State, or the creation or
4 improvement of a water storage basin or reservoir for the
5 purpose of controlling the waters of any of the lakes or
6 rivers of the State, may file with said commission for its
7 information and use copies all plans for the construction
8 of any such dam or storage basin or reservoir, and a state-
9 ment giving the location, height and nature of the pro-
10 posed dam and appurtenant structures and the estimated
11 horse power to be developed thereby, and in case a dam
12 is to be constructed solely for the purpose of water storage
13 and not for the development of a water power at its site,
14 plans and statements shall be filed with the commission
15 showing the extent of the land to be flowed, the estimated
16 number of cubic feet of water that may be stored and the
17 estimated effect upon the flow of the stream or streams
18 to be affected thereby. Every person, firm or corporation
19 shall, as soon as practical, after this act takes effect, file
20 similar plans, reports and estimates in relation to any dam
21 or storage basin or reservoir then in process of construc-
22 tion by them.

Sect. 5. The commission shall present to the legislature
2 on or before the fifteenth day of January, A. D. 1911, and
3 biennially thereafter, a report showing the progress made
4 in its investigations, and, if practicable, shall complete its
5 investigations to such an extent before January first, A. D.
6 1911, as will enable it to present in its report a compre-
7 prehensive and practical plan for the improvement and crea-

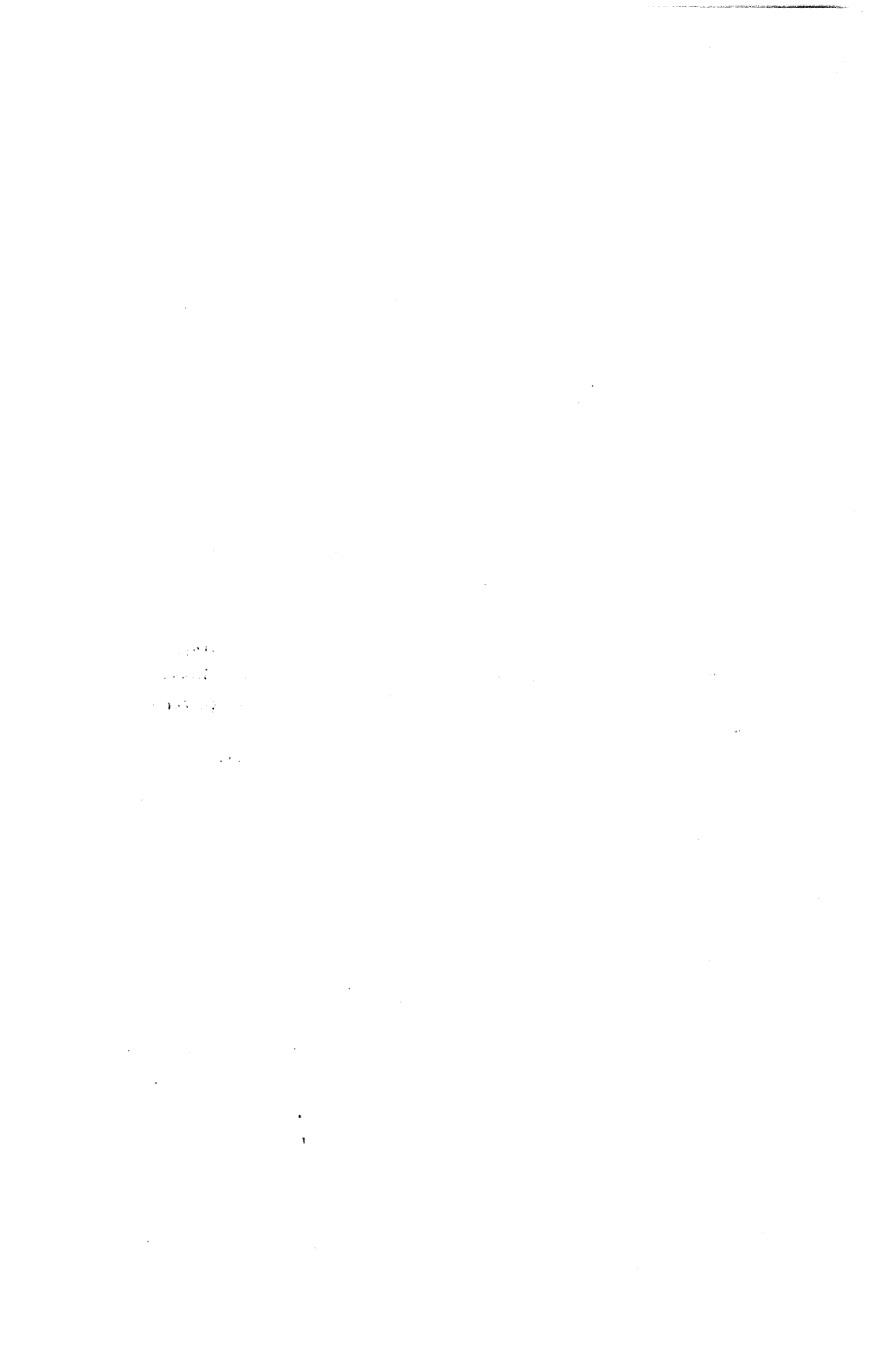
8 tion of such water storage basins and reservoirs as will
9 tend to develop and conserve the water powers of the
10 State. The commission shall also report so far as its in-
11 vestigation will permit on the present development of the
12 water powers in the State with reference to the general
13 plan proposed so that the legislature may have before it
14 a comprehensive summary of the possibilities that lie in
15 the development of the water powers in the State, as a
16 natural resource and the necessary steps that should be
17 taken by the State to further increase and conserve them.

Sect. 6. So far as any proposed plan devised by the
2 commission for the improvement and increase of water
3 storage basins or reservoirs shall include the construction
4 of a dam or dams upon or at the head waters of any river
5 or water course, the commission shall ascertain and report
6 as nearly as may be the water storage capacity in cubic
7 feet of the reservoir to be created, the recorded rainfall
8 on the water shed above such proposed dam and the max-
9 imum, minimum and average flow of water per second in
10 cubic feet during each month in the year in said river or
11 water course. They shall as nearly as practicable estimate
12 the increased water horse power that would be developed
13 by such proposed dam in the rivers or streams to be affected
14 thereby.

Sect. 8. The commission shall ascertain what townships
2 or parts of townships of land can be purchased by the State
3 and the cost thereof, with all the necessary data for a cor-

4 rect understanding of their value as a forest reserve or
5 for conserving the water powers of the State, or for re-
6 forestation.

Sect. 9. The sum of two thousand dollars for the year
2 1909 and two thousand dollars for the year 1910, or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated
4 out of any fund in the treasury of the State, not otherwise
5 appropriated, to carry out the provisions of this act.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

March 9, 1909.

Reported by Mr. WYMAN from Committee on Forest
Preservation and Water Supply and laid on table to be printed
under joint rules.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.