

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE.

No. 501

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to create a State Water Storage Commission.

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*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 the  
3 State, who, together with the Governor and the State land  
4 agent, shall constitute a commission to be known as the State  
5 Water Storage Commission, of which the Governor shall be  
6 chairman. As members of said commission, they shall re-  
7 ceive no salaries but shall be paid their actual and necessary  
8 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, and  
9 may employ a competent engineer. The office of the com-  
10 mission shall be at the State House in the city of Augusta.  
11 The commission may appoint a secretary who shall be paid a

12 salary not to exceed six hundred dollars per annum, who  
13 shall 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 the lakes and ponds in the State and their respec-  
5 tive value and capacity as storage reservoirs, and such other  
6 hydrographic data as they may deem of value in devising  
7 the best methods for the improvement of the natural storage  
8 basins of the State and the creation of new storage reser-  
9 voirs, with a view to conserving and increasing the capacity  
10 of the water powers of the State.

Sect. 3. The commission shall, so far as possible, work in  
2 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 the  
5 State in so far as it relates to the collection of data bearing  
6 on the water powers and water storage reservoirs of the  
7 State. The State Survey Commission shall place at the dis-  
8 posal of the State Water Storage Commission all informa-  
9 tion, and copies of reports, maps and plans collected by them  
10 and bearing on the hydrography of the State.

Sect. 4. Every person, firm or corporation before com-  
2 mencing the erection of a dam for the purpose of developing  
3 any water power in this State, or the creation or improve-  
4 ment of a water storage basin or reservoir for the purpose of  
5 controlling the waters of any of the lakes or rivers of the

6 State, shall file with said commission for its information  
7 and use copies of plans for the construction of any such dam  
8 or storage basin or reservoir, and a statement giving the lo-  
9 cation, height and nature of the proposed dam and appurte-  
10 nant structures and the estimated power to be developed  
11 thereby, and in case a dam is to be constructed solely for the  
12 purpose of water storage and not for the development of a  
13 water power at its site, plans and statements shall be filed  
14 with the commission showing the extent of the land to be  
15 flowed, the estimated number of cubic feet of water that may  
16 be stored and the estimated effect upon the flow of the stream  
17 or streams to be affected thereby. Every person, firm or  
18 corporation shall, as soon as practical, after this act takes ef-  
19 fect, file similar plans, reports and estimates in relation to  
20 any dam or storage basin or reservoir then in process of con-  
21 struction by them.

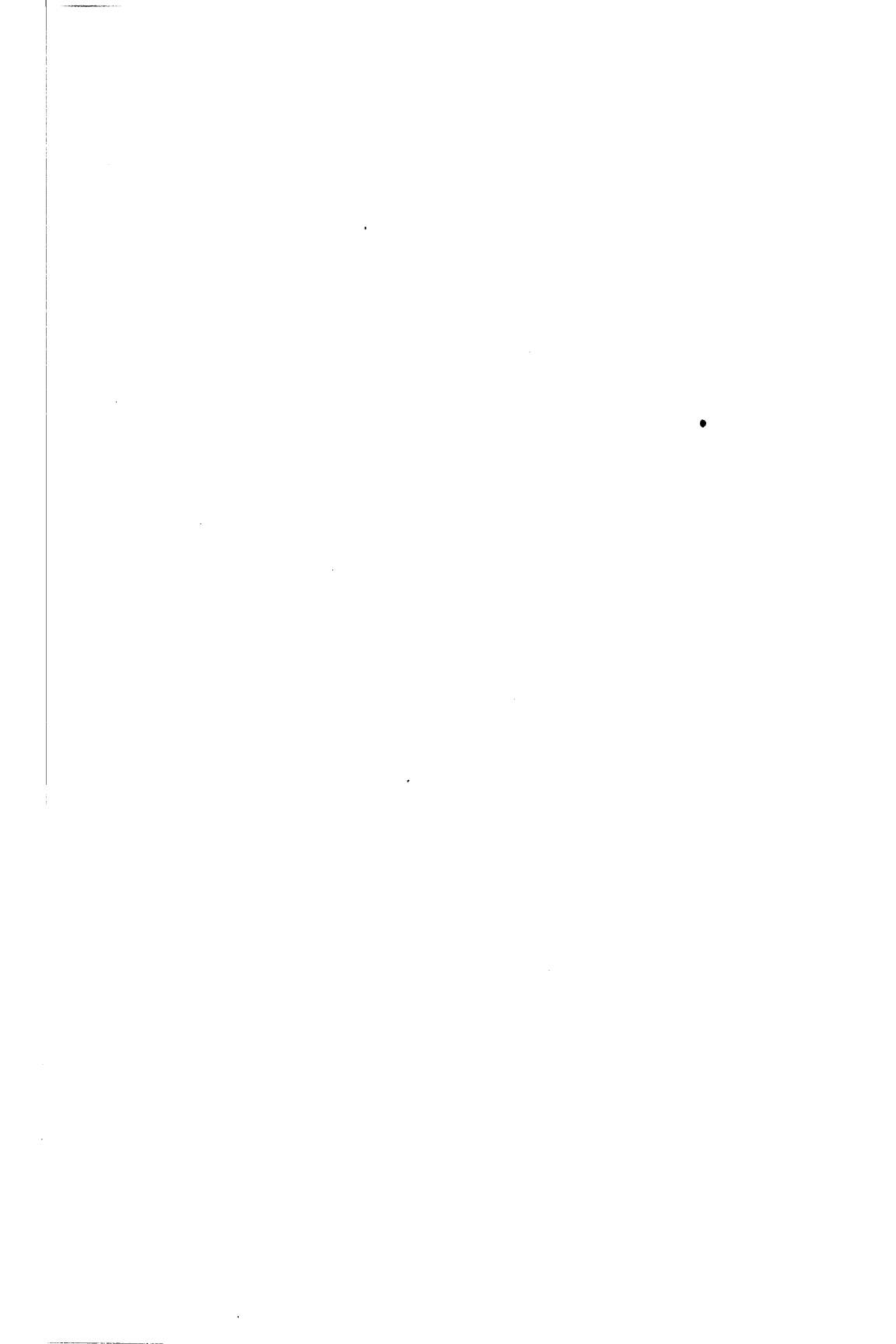
Sect. 5. The commission shall present to the legislature on  
2 or before the fifteenth day of January, A. D. 1911, a report  
3 showing the progress made in its investigations, and, if  
4 practicable, shall complete its investigations to such an extent  
5 before January first, A. D. 1911, as will enable it to present  
6 in its report a comprehensive and practical plan for the im-  
7 provement and creation of such water storage basins and  
8 reservoirs as will tend to develop and conserve the water  
9 powers of the State. The commission shall also report so  
10 far as its investigation will permit on the present develop-  
11 ment of the water powers in the State with reference to the

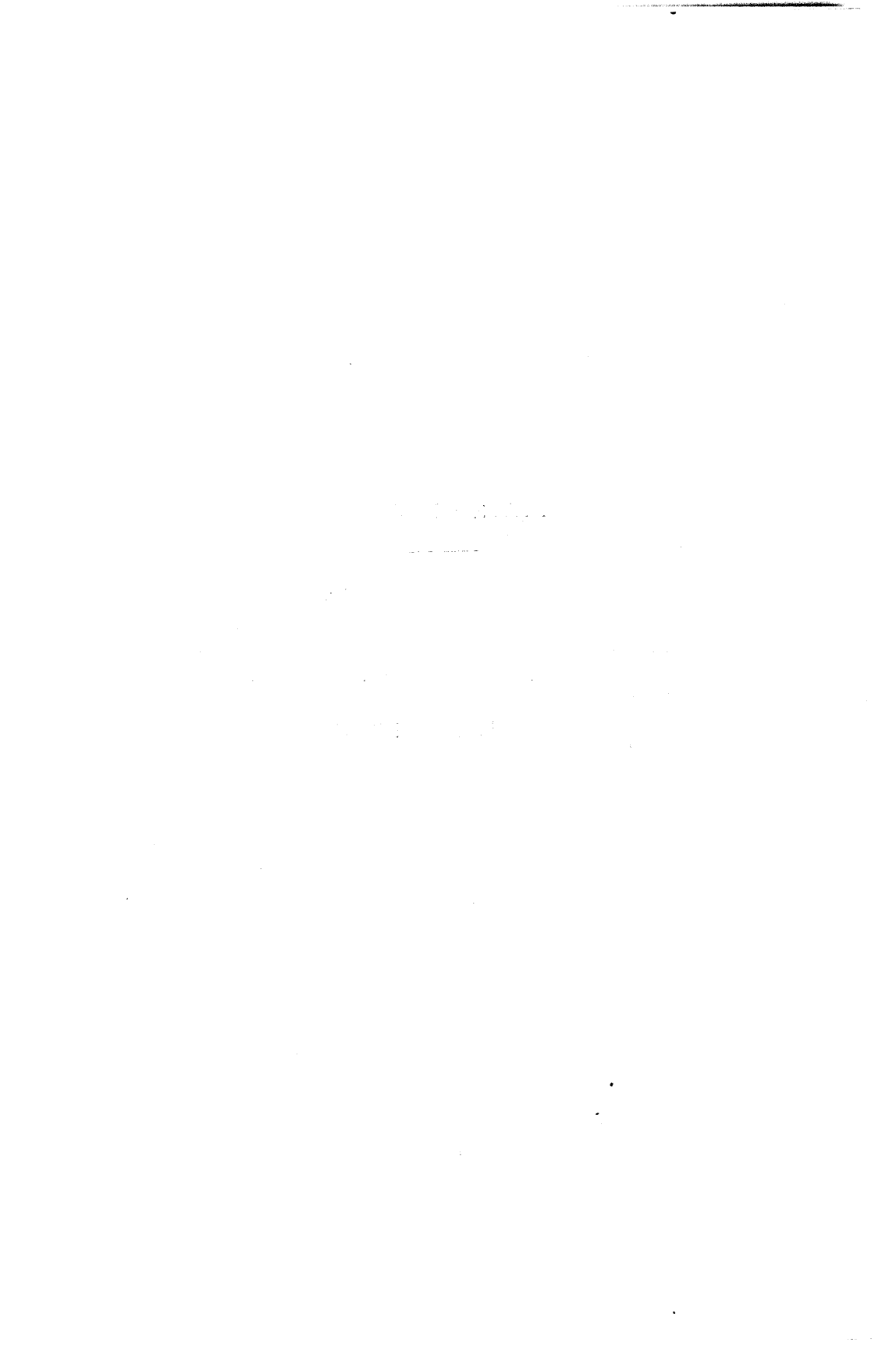
12 general plan proposed so that the legislature may have be-  
13 fore it a comprehensive summary of the possibilities that lie  
14 in the development of the water powers in the State, as a  
15 natural resource and the necessary steps that should be taken  
16 by the State to further increase and conserve them.

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

Sect. 8. The commission shall ascertain what townships or  
2 parts of townships of land can be purchased by the State and  
3 the cost thereof, with all the necessary data for a correct un-  
4 derstanding of their value as a forest reserve or for conserv-  
5 ing the water powers of the State, or for reforestation, and  
6 shall further investigate the question of denuded, burnt over  
7 or barren lands in the State their extent and value with a  
8 view to their purchase by the State for reforestation.

Sect. 9. The sum of five thousand dollars for the year 1909  
2 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, to carry out the provisions of this act.







STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE,

March 26, 1909.

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

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary.*