

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 61

House of Representatives, Jan. 24, 1913.

On motion of Scates of Westbrook House reconsidered its vote whereby it referred this act to Committee on Ways and Bridges and sent same up for concurrence and on motion of Mr. Scates this bill was tabled pending reference to a committee by Mr. Scates of Westbrook and ordered printed.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to enable the County of Sagadahoc to Rebuild Merrymeeting Bay Bridge.

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

Section 1. The county of Sagadahoc, by and through its
2 county commissioners, is hereby authorized and empowered
3 to rebuild, construct, maintain and operate a bridge over
4 and across Merrymeeting Bay, connecting the highway in
5 Topsham with the highway in Bath, and thereby forming
6 a continuous highway from said Topsham to said Bath, as
7 hereinafter provided.

Sect. 2. Said bridge, if and when constructed and opened
2 to public travel, shall be a toll bridge, built of iron, steel
3 or concrete, on substantial piers and abutments of concrete
4 or masonry, and of sufficient width to properly accommo-
5 date the public travel and traffic.

Sect. 3. The county commissioners of said county shall
2 regulate and establish, from time to time, such rates of toll
3 as shall in their judgment be just and proper, and give pub-
4 lic notice thereof. They shall employ a suitable person, at
5 a stipulated salary, to superintend the bridge and collect the
6 tolls, who shall render to the county commissioners, on the
7 first day of each month, a statement, under oath, of the
8 amount of tolls collected during the preceding month, and
9 pay the same to the county treasurer, and who shall receive
10 his salary from the county treasurer, on the written order
11 of the county commissioners, and not otherwise; and any
12 excess of monies so received into the county treasury, over
13 and above what is required for necessary expenses, repairs
14 and maintenance, shall be paid into the sinking fund, here-
15 inafter provided, for the payment of such bonds, notes or
16 other obligations which said county may issue under and
17 by virtue of this act.

Sect. 4. For the purpose of aiding in the rebuilding and
2 construction of said bridge, the sum of forty thousand dol-
3 lars, to be paid twenty thousand dollars in the year 1913,
4 and twenty thousand dollars in the year 1914, is hereby

5 appropriated from any unexpended monies in the state
6 treasury,

Provided: That the sum of ten thousand dollars is raised
8 by the city of Bath and the towns of Topsham, Bowdoin,
9 Bowdoinham and Richmond, in the respective proportions
10 which the last valuation of each by the Board of State As-
11 sessors bears to said sum of ten thousand dollars; and

Provided, further, that any balance of the appropriation
13 hereinbefore made from the state treasury, which may re-
14 main unexpended at the end of the year 1913, shall be add-
15 ed to the appropriation for, and be available for use in, the
16 year 1914; and

Provided, further, that the county commissioners of said
18 county of Sagadahoc shall provide, by the issue of the
19 bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness of said
20 county, a sum sufficient, together with the fifty thousand
21 dollars hereinbefore authorized, to defray the entire cost
22 of erecting and constructing said bridge, piers and abut-
23 ments. Said bonds, notes or other evidences of indebted-
24 ness, shall be payable in not more than forty years from
25 their date, with interest not to exceed four per centum per
26 annum, payable semi-annually, signed by the county treas-
27 urer, and countersigned by said county commissioners and
28 bearing their seal; said bonds to be of such denominations
29 as said county commissioners shall deem advisable; and

Provided, further, that any bridge erected under and by
31 virtue of the authority of this act, shall be erected subject

32 to all the conditions and limitations imposed by the Act
33 of Congress of the United States, of March 3, 1899, and
34 acts additional thereto and amendatory thereof, and of the
35 rules and regulations of the War Department of the United
36 States made in pursuance thereof; and the authority here-
37 by granted for the erection of said bridge, is expressly
38 granted subject to all the conditions, limitations, rules and
39 regulations aforesaid.

Sect. 5. From and after the acceptance of this act, as
2 herein provided, the county commissioners of said county
3 shall include in their annual estimates of county taxes the
4 sums necessary for the maintenance of said bridge, to-
5 gether with a sum equal to two per centum of the county
6 bonds or notes issued in virtue of this act, which sum shall
7 be set aside yearly, until with its past and prospective ac-
8 cretions, it shall be sufficient to provide for the payment of
9 said bonds or notes at maturity, and said sums and accre-
10 tions shall constitute a sinking fund for the payment of
11 said bonds or notes, and shall be invested in such interest
12 bearing securities as said commissioners shall approve or
13 in such bonds, but shall not in any other manner be loaned
14 to said county.

Sect. 6. No part of this act shall take effect unless and
2 until it is accepted by the legal voters of Sagadahoc county
3 by a majority vote at meetings of the several towns and
4 municipalities in said county, duly notified and warned, to
5 be held on the first Monday in September next for the pur-

6 pose of accepting or rejecting this act, at which meeting
7 the vote shall be by ballot as follows: For rebuilding Mer-
8 rymeeting Bay Bridge, and operating the same as a toll
9 bridge, "yes", "no."

Sect. 7. The ballots shall be received, sorted and declared
2 as votes for town officers are, and shall be recorded by the
3 town and city clerks, and true copies thereof sealed and
4 attested, shall be transmitted to the county commissioners
5 of the county of Sagadahoc within six days. The commis-
6 sioners shall open and declare the votes so returned by pub-
7 lishing the same in the Bath Daily Times and the Bath In-
8 dependent in two issues of these papers. If errors appear
9 in the returns they shall be corrected by the commissioners
10 upon proper evidence, and if a majority of the ballots re-
11 turned have "yes" upon them, it shall be deemed to be an
12 acceptance of this act, and the same shall then be in force,
13 but if there should be a majority of ballots with "no" there-
14 on, it shall be deemed a rejection of the same.

Sect. 8. Before said meetings are called the county com-
2 missioners shall procure careful estimates by a competent
3 and disinterested civil engineer of the entire cost of rebuild-
4 ing said bridge, with its piers and abutments, in a suitable
5 manner, and of making the same and its approaches perma-
6 nent and safe for public travel, and shall cause said esti-
7 mates to be kept in their office in Bath open for public in-
8 spection for at least thirty days before the first Monday of
9 September next.

Sect. 9. At the meeting in the city of Bath to be held under the provisions hereof, the check lists used at the March, nineteen hundred and thirteen municipal election, or copies thereof certified by the city clerk, shall be used. The board of registration shall be in session only on the day of said meeting, and any person legally qualified to vote at said meeting, whose name shall not be found upon said lists, may receive a certificate of his qualification from said board, and shall thereupon be permitted by the proper ward officers to cast his ballot as if his name were on said list. The vote at the meetings in said city and town shall be by open ballot.

Sect. 10. If this act shall be accepted by the voters of Sagadahoc county, as hereinbefore provided, all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act shall thereby be repealed.