

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 238

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*House of Representatives, Feb. 14, 1913.*

*Reported by Mr. Spencer from Committee on Ways and  
Bridges and ordered printed under joint rules.*

*W. R. ROIX, Clerk.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to authorize Employment of County Prisoners on  
Highways.

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

Section 1. County commissioners may authorize the  
2 keepers of jails to put able-bodied male prisoners to work on  
3 the building or repairing of highways within their county.  
4 The county commissioners shall make rules and regulations  
5 and appoint overseers and keepers needful for the direction  
6 and safe keeping of prisoners so employed, and such over-  
7 scers and keepers shall have all authority conferred by  
8 statute on masters of houses of correction and shall be re-

9 sponsible for the safe keeping and return to jail of all pris-  
10 oners in their custody, and shall be subject to the provisions  
11 of section fifty-seven of chapter eighty-two of the Revised  
12 Statutes. No prisoner shall be so employed who has been  
13 exempted therefrom by the magistrate imposing sentence,  
14 or if in the judgment of a physician expressed by a certifi-  
15 cate he is unfit for such labor. County commissioners shall  
16 supply all prisoners with all necessary and suitable cloth-  
17 ing of such description as will not materially distinguish  
18 them from other workmen, they shall also furnish said pris-  
19 oners with the required tools and implements and may em-  
20 ploy such other labor and purchase such other material and  
21 equipment as may be necessary to properly carry out the  
22 objects of this act, and shall keep account of all expenses  
23 incident to such employment.

Sect. 2. Section sixteen of chapter eighty of the Revised  
2 Statutes shall not apply to this act.

Sect. 3. The State Highway Department and municipal  
2 officers of towns may make application for the services of  
3 prisoners as aforesaid and may enter into an agreement as  
4 to the cost and compensation to be paid to the county for  
5 such services, and the sum agreed on may be paid out of  
6 moneys appropriated for highway purposes. All such labor  
7 shall be under the general direction of the board or persons  
8 charged with the work.

Sect. 4. When a written petition signed by at least three  
2 per centum of the voters in any county, as determined by

3 the number of votes cast therein for governor at the last  
4 preceding election, is addressed to the county commission-  
5 ers of said county requesting the employment of prisoners  
6 as above provided, said commissioners shall act thereon and  
7 shall designate the prisoners available for work under the  
8 conditions provided in this act.

Sect. 5. Any contract for the employment of prisoners,  
2 not provided for in this act, which may be made by the  
3 county commissioners of any county, with any person, firm  
4 or corporation, shall be made subject to the right of the  
5 said county commissioners, to withdraw, cancel, or suspend  
6 said contract, in whole or in part.

Sect. 6. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this  
2 act are hereby repealed.