

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 661

House of Representatives, March 26, 1913.

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

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 Merry-
meeting 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 under the supervision of the state commissioner of high-
4 ways to rebuild, construct, maintain and operate a bridge
5 over and across Merrymeeting bay, connecting the highway
6 in Topsham with the highway in Bath, and thereby form-
7 ing a continuous highway from said Topsham to said Bath,
8 as 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 or
3 concrete, on substantial piers and abutments of concrete or
4 masonry, and of sufficient width to properly accommodate
5 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 moneys 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 thirty thousand dol-
3 lars, to be paid fifteen thousand dollars in the year 1913,
4 and fifteen thousand dollars in the year 1914, is hereby ap-

5 propriated from any unexpended moneys in the state treas-
6 ury.

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 assess-
11 ors 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 added
15 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 bonds,
19 notes or other evidences of indebtedness of said county, a
20 sum sufficient, together with the forty thousand dollars here-
21 inbefore authorized, to defray the entire cost of erecting
22 and constructing said bridge, piers and abutments. Said
23 bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness, shall be
24 payable in not more than forty years from their date, with
25 interest not to exceed four per centum per annum, payable
26 semi-annually, signed by the county treasurer, and counter-
27 signed by said county commissioners and bearing their seal;
28 said bonds to be of such denominations as said county com-
29 missioners 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 of
33 Congress of the United States, of March 3, 1899, and acts
34 additional thereto and amendatory thereof, and of the rules
35 and regulations of the war department of the United States
36 made in pursuance thereof; and the authority hereby grant-
37 ed for the erection of said bridge, is expressly granted sub-
38 ject to all the conditions, limitations, rules and regulations
39 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, together
5 with a sum equal to two per centum of the county bonds or
6 notes issued in virtue of this act, which sum shall be set
7 aside yearly, until with its past and prospective accretions,
8 it shall be sufficient to provide for the payment of said bonds
9 or notes at maturity, and said sums and accretions shall con-
10 stitute a sinking fund for the payment of said bonds or
11 notes, and shall be invested in such interest bearing securi-
12 ties as said commissioners shall approve or in such bonds,
13 but shall not in any other manner be loaned 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 be
5 held on the first Monday in September next for the purpose
6 of accepting or rejecting this act, at which meeting the vote

7 shall be by ballot as follows: For rebuilding Merrymeeting
8 Bay bridge, and operating the same as a toll bridge, "yes,"
9 "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 un-

2 der the provisions hereof, the check lists used at the March
3 nineteen hundred and thirteen municipal election, or copies
4 thereof certified by the city clerk, shall be used. The board
5 of registration shall be in session only on the day of said
6 meeting, and any person legally qualified to vote at said
7 meeting, whose name shall not be found upon said lists,
8 may receive a certificate of his qualification from said board,
9 and shall thereupon be permitted by the proper ward officers
10 to cast his ballot as if his name were on said list. The vote
11 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
2 Sagadahoc county, as hereinbefore provided, all acts and
3 parts of acts inconsistent with this act shall thereby be re-
4 pealed.