

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE NO. 57

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*House of Representatives, Feb. 3, 1915.*

*Introduced by Mr. Smith of Hampden. By Mr. Smith of Hampden tabled for printing.*

*C C. HARVEY, Clerk.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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*Ordered*, the Senate concurring, that a special joint committee of three on the part of the House, with such as the Senate may join, be appointed to inquire into the tariff rates, rules and regulations, now in vogue among the steam railways in Maine; to ascertain the methods whereby their present capitalization was obtained and what portion of the same may be watered stock; to make diligent inquiry into the apparent depreciation of their stocks and bonds, and the cause or causes to which the same may be attributed; to compare the amounts paid at the present time with those of the past by the railroads for salaries and attorneys' fees; to ascertain the past and present business relations between the Boston and Maine R. R. and the Maine Central R. R.;

14 to ascertain to what extent the New York, New Haven and  
15 Hartford R. R. has been, or is now an interested party in  
16 the Maine railroads; to ascertain whether or not any of  
17 the Maine railroads have been, or are now being aided by  
18 any of the Wall Street banking firms, and for the purpose  
19 of carrying out the objects of this order, the committee is  
20 hereby authorized to employ counsel, a stenographer, and  
21 to summon witnesses to appear and produce books, papers,  
22 and other documents, and to give evidence pertinent to the  
23 inquiry with which the committee is charged. This com-  
24 mittee is empowered to sit during the vacation of the legis-  
25 lature and to report the results of its findings to this legis-  
26 lature or a subsequent legislature.