

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 166

House of Representatives, Feb. 12, 1915.

Ordered, That five hundred copies be printed and that the same be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Committee on Reference.

Presented by Mr. Edwards of Bethel.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT for the better conservation and protection of the public water supplies for domestic use and for fire protection.

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

Incorporated Water Companies and all municipalities,
2 owning and operating water works for the public supply of
3 water for domestic uses and for fire protection, in this state,
4 are hereby authorized to take and hold, as for public uses,
5 by purchase or otherwise, wild or unimproved land, and to
6 operate, occupy and improve the same, when such land con-
7 stitutes the whole or any part of the water shed from which
8 such water supply is derived, for the purpose of conserving
9 and protecting such supply.

Land so taken by any such water company or municipal-
11 ity, to the extent of three thousand acres to be designated
12 by the owner of such water works, shall be exempt from
13 taxation, but all wood and timber removed from such land
14 shall be taxable in the town where the land lies.

In exercising the right of eminent domain, conferred by
16 this act, said companies and municipalities and all parties
17 interested, shall be governed by the general law pertaining
18 to such taking and to the damages to be recovered therefor ;
19 and the question of necessity for such taking shall be deter-
20 mined in the same manner as is provided in the case of tak-
21 ing by water districts.