

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 318

House of Representatives, Feb. 24, 1915.

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

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE, in favor of aid in building a bridge in the town
of Crystal.

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of one thousand dollars (\$1000) to aid in building a
3 bridge across Fish stream in the town of Crystal, provided
4 that there be appropriated by the town of Crystal, one thou-
5 sand dollars (\$1000) for the same purpose; both sums to
6 be expended under the supervision of the state highway
7 commission; provided also that any additional cost above
8 two thousand dollars shall be borne by said town of Crystal,
9 and further provided that said bridge shall be kept in such
10 repair as may be directed by the state highway commission
11 at the expense of the town of Crystal.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The appropriation asked for in this resolve is for the purpose of building a concrete bridge, 180 feet long, across the Carrabassett river in Kingfield village, to replace the present structure, which is supported by four cables on towers and known as the Chain bridge. It was built seventy years ago and is in a dangerous condition and unsafe for the public to travel.

In 1909 the town of Kingfield began the construction of a State Aid Road from the Somerset county line extending to Kingfield Village, crossing this bridge and to extend, when completed, about six miles north on the Dead River Road to the town line. This road has already been completed from the said Somerset County line to the Chain bridge, and last year work was begun at the town line, which will within a few years be completed to this bridge, making a thoroughfare for travel between Somerset County and the northern part of Franklin County.

The town has expended a large sum of money in building this road. A large per cent of the travel over same is by residents of other towns. It is on the main thoroughfare from the Dead River region to Farmington and Somerset County and crosses the Carrabassett river twice, besides numerous other small bridges which the town has built and maintains.

On account of the fact that the road above referred to and these bridges are used so extensively by the people of the State, as well as by the inhabitants of the town of Kingfield, and, owing to the fact of the increase in weight of the vehicles used by the traveling public and the further fact that the tax rate in Kingfield has been practically three per cent for several years, largely caused by the expenditure of money on its highways for the accommodation of the people of the State, it is but just and equitable that this appropriation be made.

The cable supporting the present bridge has twice broken in the winter, and as the bridge is located only a few hundred feet above the dam, in case of a break when the water is high the same would necessarily result in the loss of life.