

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 617

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*House of Representatives, March 10, 1915.*

*Reported by Mr. Conners from Committee on Judiciary and  
ordered printed under joint rules.*

*FORTUNAT BELLEAU, Clerk pro tem.*

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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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AN ACT to amend Chapter 129 of the Public Laws of 1913, en-  
titled An act to create a Public Utilities Commission, prescribe  
its powers and duties, and provide for the regulation and con-  
trol of Public Utilities.

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

Section 1 of Chapter 129 of the Public Laws of 1913 is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after the words "assistant  
3 clerk" in the thirteenth line thereof, the words 'also a chief  
4 inspector of Utilities who shall be a practical railroad man,'  
5 so that said section when amended shall read as follows:

'Section 1. The Governor with the advice and consent of  
7 the Council shall appoint three commissioners, one of whom

8 he shall designate as chairman, which said commissioners  
9 shall be jointly known as the Public Utilities Commission.  
10 Said commission shall adopt and have a seal and be provided  
11 with any office at the State House in which its records shall  
12 be kept. Under the direction of the Governor and Council  
13 said commission may expend such sums of money as may  
14 be necessary for the purchase of books, maps, stationery,  
15 office furniture and supplies for procuring statistics and in-  
16 formation and for defraying expenses incidental to the dis-  
17 charge of its duties. A statement of such expenses shall ac-  
18 company its annual report. Said commission shall appoint  
19 a clerk and an assistant clerk; also a chief inspector of Util-  
20 ities who shall be a practical railroad man, who shall per-  
21 form such duties as the commission may require. The clerk  
22 shall keep a full and minute record of the proceedings of  
23 the commission which shall be open to public inspection at  
24 all times. The assistant clerk shall assist the clerk in the  
25 performance of his duties, and in the absence of the clerk  
26 shall have the same powers as the clerk. No member or  
27 employee of said commission shall have any official or pro-  
28 fessional connection or relation with or hold any stock se-  
29 curities in any public utility as herein defined, operating  
30 within the State of Maine, nor shall he render any profes-  
31 sional service against any such public utility, nor shall he be  
32 a member of a firm which shall render any such service. No  
33 commissioner shall hold any other office of profit or trust

34 under the government of the United States or of this state  
35 except the office of justice of the peace or notary public, nor  
36 shall he serve on or under any committee of any political  
37 party. Any wilful violation of the provisions of this act  
38 by any commissioner shall constitute sufficient cause for his  
39 removal by the Governor with the advice and consent of the  
40 council.'

Section 2 of Chapter 129 of the Public Laws of 1913 is  
42 hereby amended by inserting after the words "fifteen hun-  
43 dred dollars" in the fifth line thereof the words 'and the  
44 salary of the chief inspector of Utilities shall be left to the  
45 discretion of the Public Utilities Commission,' and also in  
46 inserting after the word "clerks" in the sixth line thereof,  
47 the words, 'the chief inspector of Utilities,' so that said sec-  
48 tion when amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 2. The annual salary of each member of said  
50 commission shall be, for the chairmen five thousand dollars.  
51 and for each other member four thousand five hundred dol-  
52 lars; the salary of the clerk shall be twenty-five hundred  
53 dollars; and the salary of the assistant clerk shall be fifteen  
54 hundred dollars; and the salary of the chief inspector of  
55 Utilities shall be left to the discretion of the Public Utilities  
56 Commission; and the commissioners, their clerks, the chief  
57 inspector of Public Utilities, and all employees shall receive  
58 actual expenses when travelling on official business. The  
59 chairman of the Commission first appointed shall hold office

60 for seven years, and the other members shall hold office for  
61 five years and three years respectively; and the terms of the  
62 two latter shall be designated by the Governor when making  
63 the appointments. Each member thereafter shall hold office  
64 for seven years. Any vacancy occurring in said commission  
65 shall be filled in the same manner as by original appoint-  
66 ment, but such appointment shall be only for the unexpired  
67 portion of the term in which such vacancy occurs.'