

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 133

House of Representatives, Feb. 6, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Daigle of Wallagrass.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLVE in Aid of the Construction of a Highway Bridge
over the St. John River between Fort Kent, Maine, and St.
Francis, New Brunswick.

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

Resolved, That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, to be available in nine-
3 teen hundred eighteen, for the purpose of aiding in the
4 construction of a highway bridge across the St. John river
5 at site No. one on plan of
6 E. E. Greenwood on file in the office of the State Highway
7 Commission, within the limits of the Fort Kent Village cor-

8 poration in Fort Kent in the county of Aroostook and the
9 State of Maine, and the parish of St. Francis in the county
10 of Madawaska and province of New Brunswick; provided,
11 that the county of Aroostook shall appropriate eight thou-
12 sand three hundred thirty-three dollars and fifty cents in
13 the year nineteen hundred seventeen and eight thousand
14 three hundred thirty-three dollars and fifty cents in the
15 year nineteen hundred eighteen, and the county commis-
16 sioners of Aroostook county are authorized and required
17 to appropriate said sums, and that the town of Fort Kent
18 appropriate four thousand one hundred sixty-six dollars
19 and fifty cents in the year nineteen hundred seventeen, and
20 four thousand one hundred sixty-six dollars and fifty cents
21 in the year nineteen hundred eighteen, all for the same
22 purpose; provided further that the expenditure of this
23 amount shall not be made unless the Dominion of Canada
24 or the province of New Brunswick appropriates the sum
25 of fifty thousand dollars to be expended for the con-
26 struction of said bridge.

Said appropriation shall be expended under the direction
2 of the state highway commission, who, acting in concert
3 with such person or persons as may be designated by the
4 Dominion of Canada or the province of New Brunswick,
5 shall have charge of the construction of said bridge.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Fort Kent is the largest town on the Saint John river in the State of Maine. It had a population of 3,710 in 1910 and is the center of population of a territory now containing about 13,000 and which is rapidly increasing. Except a foot bridge there is no bridge across the Saint John river for forty-five miles, in either direction. During several weeks in each year the river is entirely impassible and its crossing is frequently dangerous

It is also understood that the Dominion Parliament will provide one-half the cost of building the desired bridge. That in 1913 there was appropriated by the State, county and town, \$30,000.00; this was re-appropriated in 1915, and the town of Fort Kent has now in the State Treasury \$2,500.00. Owing to increased cost of labor and material, the cost of the bridge will be nearly one hundred thousand dollars; one-half of it would be \$50,000.00