

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 394

House of Representatives, Feb. 23, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Public Utilities and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Rounds of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to fix and prescribe storage, demurrage, and car service charges which may be collected by railroad and other transportation companies on freight transported, or to be collected by them, and to be paid by them on freight delayed and cars not promptly furnished or placed by them, with rules and regulations governing same.

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

From and after the passage of this act, power is hereby
2 conferred on the Public Utility Commission of the State
3 of Maine, and it is required to fix and prescribe a schedule

4 of rates for storage of freight in depots and for demurrage
5 or car service on freight in carload lots, to be charged by
6 railroad and other transportation companies doing business
7 in this state, and to fix the time after the reception of freight
8 at destination at which such charges of storage, demurrage,
9 or car service shall begin, with power to vary the same ac-
10 cording to the value and character of the freight stored, the
11 nature of the place of destination, the residence of the con-
12 signee, and such other facts as, in its judgment, should be
13 considered in fixing the same. The Public Utility Commis-
14 sion shall fix and prescribe a schedule of detention charges
15 to be paid by railroad and other transportation companies
16 to the consignee in case of delay in the delivery of freight
17 in carloads or less at destination, or where shipments are
18 held an unreasonable length of time at the station or siding
19 at which they originate, or at any intermediate point, and
20 for carrying freights, express packages, and all other effects
21 by and beyond the place of final destination without author-
22 ity from the consignee; and the commission shall also fix
23 and prescribe rules and regulations covering the placing of
24 empty cars and a schedule of detention charges to be paid
25 by railroad companies to consignors when cars are not placed
26 for loading in accordance with said rules and regulations
27 after application has been made therefor, when said charges
28 shall, when paid, be in full of any and all claims for dam-
29 ages growing out of such failures; provided, however, that
30 the owner of the freight may, at his election, waive said

31 charges and elect to claim such actual damage as he may
32 have sustained instead of such charges.