

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 726

House of Representatives, March 30, 1917.

On motion of Mr. Farrington of Augusta, tabled pending passage. On further motion of same gentleman five hundred copies ordered printed.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Baxter of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that a committee of five
2 be appointed by the Governor, consisting of three members
3 of the House of Representatives and two members of the
4 Senate, to investigate and report as to the advisability of
5 imposing an excise, franchise or other tax on the corpora-
6 tions within the State of Maine which generate or distribute
7 or sell electric current for light, heat and power purposes.

The said committee shall have power to investigate and re-
2 port on the general subject of taxation of the corporations
3 above mentioned and on the taxation of undeveloped water

4 powers wherever located and the taxation of water power
5 and storage dams in unincorporated places.

The said committee shall receive five dollars per day for
2 their services and shall be paid their reasonable expenses,
3 and they shall have power to employ such clerical and legal
4 assistance as is necessary, all subject to the approval of the
5 Governor and Council. Said committee shall have power to
6 summon and compel the attendance of witnesses who shall
7 testify under oath and to compel the production of books of
8 account and other papers and to punish for contempt.

Said committee shall commence its investigation as soon as
2 practicable after the adjournment of this legislature and
3 shall report its findings to the Governor and Council on or
4 before the first day of October, 1917, but in case said com-
5 mittee shall not have completed its report by said date, it
6 shall render a partial report to the said Governor and Coun-
7 cil on that date and shall complete its findings before January
8 1st, 1918.

The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this or-
2 der shall be taken from any funds in the State Treasury not
3 otherwise appropriated.