

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 20

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*In Senate, Jan. 23, 1917.*

*Came from the House referred to the Committee on Judiciary, and on motion by Mr. Baxter of Sagadahoc laid on the table for printing pending reference in concurrence, and one thousand copies ordered printed.*

*W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.*

*Introduced by Percival P. Baxter of Portland.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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RESOLVE, relating to the Conservation of the Sotrage Reservoirs and Water Powers of the State of Maine.

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*Resolved, That, the Senate concurring, it is the opinion of*  
2 *the 78th Legislature of Maine, now in session, that all the*  
3 *remaining rights which the State of Maine has in the water*  
4 *storage reservoirs and basins and in the water powers of*  
5 *this state, should, in some manner, be conserved for the*  
6 *benefit of the people of the state, either by lease, by public*  
7 *ownership and development, or otherwise: And*

That it is the opinion of the Legislature that no further  
2 rights in any of the said storage reservoirs and basins, or  
3 in the water powers of the state, be granted to any indi-  
4 vidual or corporation, until a careful and thorough investi-  
5 gation shall have been made showing both the developed  
6 and undeveloped water powers and storage reservoirs and  
7 basins of the state, and what rights, if any, the state of  
8 Maine has therein: And

In pursuance of the foregoing, the Public Utilities Com-  
2 mission is hereby directed and ordered to make a careful  
3 and thorough investigation of both the developed and un-  
4 developed water powers and of the water storage reservoirs  
5 and basins of this state, showing what rights remain to the  
6 state therein, and what the possibilities for development are,  
7 and the probable cost of the same: And

The said commission is hereby directed and ordered to  
2 take up and continue the work begun by the State Water  
3 Storage Commission which was created by Chapter 212 of  
4 the Laws of Maine for 1909: And

The said Public Utilities Commission is hereby directed  
2 and ordered to investigate and report as to the ownership  
3 of the riparian rights on such of the rivers and streams in  
4 the state, which in its judgment might later be used or  
5 acquired by the state for the future development of its  
6 storage and water power systems: And

The said commission is further directed to make a pre-  
2 liminary report, at as early a date as is possible, to this

3 Legislature, showing what was done by the State Water  
4 Storage Commision, with such other information as it  
5 may be able to obtain, and it shall make its full report with  
6 such recommendations as it may deem advisable, to the  
7 next Legislature: And

It is further ordered that the sum of five (\$5000) thousand  
2 dollars is hereby appropriated for the year 1917, and the  
3 sum of five (\$5000) thousand dollars for the year 1918,  
4 to be used by the said Public Utilities Commission in carry-  
5 ing out the purposes of this Resolution.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The Maine Water Storage Commission was created in 1909 and made report as to its investigations of the water storage reservoirs of the state of Maine. The accompanying resolve is presented in order that the work of the Water Storage Commission may be continued and enlarged under the Public Utilities Commission.