

SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 77

In Senate, Feb. 1, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Public Utilities and one thousand copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

Presented by Mr. Lord of York.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend Section 30 of Chapter 24 of the Revised Statutes relating to the crossing of railroad tracks by town ways and highways.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows: Section 30, Chapter 24, of the Revised Statutes is hereby 2 amended as follows: Strike out all of said section and sub-3 stitute therefor the following, to wit:

'Sect. 30. Town ways and highways may be laid out 2 across, over or under any railroad track, except that no 3 such location shall be legal or effective, nor shall any such

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4 way be constructed, unless the Public Utilities Commission, 5 on application of the municipal officers of the city or town, 6 wherein such way is located, or of the parties owning or 7 operating the railroad, shall, upon notice and hearing, de-8 termine that such way shall be permitted to cross such track. 9 Said commission shall have the right to refuse its said per-10 mission or to grant the same upon such terms and condi-11 tions as it may prescribe including the manner and condi-12 tions in accordance with which the way may cross such track 13 and whether the expense of building and maintaining so 14 much of said way as is within the limits of such railroad 15 shall be borne by such railroad company, or by the city or 16 town in which such way is located, or shall be apportioned 17 between such company and city or town as may be deter-18 mined by said commission. Said commission shall make a 19 report in writing of its decision thereupon, file the same in 20 its office and cause to be sent by mail or otherwise to each 21 of the railroad corporations, and the municipal officers of 22 the city or town as the case may be, interested therein, a 23 copy of such decision. Such decision shall be final and 24 binding upon all parties unless an appeal therefrom shall 25 be taken and entered at the next succeeding term of the 26 supreme judicial court, to be held in the county where the 27 crossing is located, more than thirty days after the date 28 of the filing of the report; and said Public Utilities Com-29 mission shall be made a party defendant in such appeal and 30 entitled to be heard in all subsequent proceedings had upon

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31 such appeal. The appellant shall within fourteen days from 32 the date of the filing of such report, file in the office of the 33 Public Utilities Commissions its reasons for appeal and four-34 teen days at least before the sitting of the appellate court 35 it shall be caused to be served upon such other interested 36 corporations or municipality a copy of such reasons for 37 appeal certified by the clerk of the Public Utilities Commis-38 sion. The presiding justice at such term of court shall 39 make such order or decree thereon as law and justice may 40 require. Exceptions may be taken to such order or decree. 41 The final adjudication shall be recorded as provided in sec-42 tion 33 of this chapter and a copy of such final decision sent 43 to the Public Utilities Commission by the clerk of the court 44 where such final adjudication is made. Costs may be taxed 45 and allowed to either party at the discretion of the court.⁴

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