

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 267

In Senate, March 2, 1917.

Reported by Mr. Holt from Committee on Public Utilities and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Requiring the Placing of Warning Signs at Grade
Crossings.

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

Section 1. Within six months from the passage of this act
2 there shall be placed and thereafterward maintained warn-
3 ing signs on every highway or other way within the state ap-
4 proaching a crossing at grade of such highway or other way
5 and the tracks of a railroad. Such signs shall be placed on
6 each side of such crossing at such distances as shall be de-
7 termined upon by the Public Utilities Commission and the
8 State Highway Commission which two Commissions are

9 hereby required and vested with the authority of causing to
10 be located and maintained such warning signs; provided,
11 however, that in the compact parts of cities and towns where
12 the conditions mentioned in revised statutes chapter fifty-
13 seven, section seventy-nine, exist and are observed and at
14 all other places where in the judgment of the two above
15 named Commissions such signs are unnecessary, no such
16 warning signs need be erected.

Sect. 2. Such signs shall consist of a disc twenty-four (24)
2 inches in diameter, the field thereof to be white with a
3 black border line one (1) inch wide, and with black perpen-
4 dicular and horizontal cross lines two and one-half ($2\frac{1}{2}$)
5 inches wide; the reverse side of such disc to be colored
6 black. In each of the upper quarterings shall appear in
7 black the letter "R" five (5) inches high, three and one-quar-
8 ter ($3\frac{1}{4}$) inches wide, lines one (1) inch stroke. Such signs
9 shall be placed in conspicuous locations beside the highway
10 at a distance of not less than three hundred (300) feet from
11 the nearest rail of such crossing unless local conditions in
12 the judgment of the two Commissions named in section one
13 hereof make it reasonable to cause such sign to be located
14 at a lesser distance from said nearest rail.

Sect. 3. The person controlling the movement of any
2 self-propelled vehicle upon passing any such warning sign
3 located more than one hundred (100) feet from a grade
4 crossing shall reduce the speed of such vehicle so that with-
5 in a distance of one hundred (100) feet from the nearest

6 rail of such crossing such vehicle shall not proceed at a
7 greater speed than ten miles per hour upon or over such
8 crossing. This provision shall be deemed to require a pre-
9 caution in addition to those now prescribed by law or other-
10 wise required with reference to the duties of persons on a
11 highway approaching a railroad grade crossing.

Sect. 4. Any person violating the foregoing section upon
2 conviction thereof shall be fined not less than ten dollars
3 (\$10.00) and jurisdiction over such offences is hereby con-
4 ferred upon municipal and police courts and trial justices
5 within the state.

Sect. 5. The expense of the erection and maintenance of
2 each warning sign mentioned in any section hereof shall be
3 borne by the state, bills therefor to be approved by the Gov-
4 ernor and Council, and paid out of any funds not other-
5 wise appropriated.

Sect. 6. Any person who unlawfully removes, throws
2 down, injures or defaces any such warning sign, shall be
3 fined therefor not less than ten dollars; and jurisdiction
4 over such offenses is hereby conferred on each trial justice
5 and municipal or police court judge, recorder and clerk, in
6 the state.