

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 295

H. D. No. 58

House of Representatives, Feb. 3, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges and 2000 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. White of Bowdoinham.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Provide for Building a Bridge Across the Kennebec River Between the Towns of Richmond and Dresden.

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

Section 1. The state highway commission is hereby authorized and directed to locate and establish a bridge to be known as "Maine Kennebec Bridge" across the Kennebec river from a point in Richmond on the Richmond side of said river, not exceeding six hundred and fifty feet north of the present public ferry landing, to a point on the Dresden shore at a point not exceeding seven hundred feet north of said ferry landing; and said commission is hereby authorized and empowered to locate and establish or cause

10 to be located and established a public highway from said
11 point in Richmond over and across said bridge and river
12 to said point in Dresden. The commission shall as soon
13 as possible after this act takes effect secure all necessary
14 plans and specifications for a bridge including suitable ap-
15 proaches, piers and abutments to be of sufficient width and
16 strength to insure the safe and convenient passage across
17 said river of railroad trains, teams, trucks, automobiles and
18 all other traffic, and to have one side walk at least four
19 feet wide for persons on foot; and shall then forthwith
20 commence and carry on the work of construction without
21 any unnecessary delay; said bridge shall contain a draw
22 such as may be required by the United States War De-
23 partment.

After the completion of said bridge and its approaches,
2 said commission shall have charge of the management and
3 maintenance of the bridge, with full power to make and
4 execute contracts with the Maine Central Railroad and
5 other utilities to use the same except as hereinafter pro-
6 vided.

Sect. 2. The commission may take by right of eminent
2 domain, or acquire by purchase, or otherwise, and hold in
3 the name of the state, such real estate and such rights and
4 easements therein as they may consider necessary for the
5 construction of the bridge, and for the necessary highways
6 and approaches, to said bridge and railroad connections
7 therewith and may lay out and build such highway ap-

8 proaches and railroad connections as may be required. Any
9 property taken by right of eminent domain shall be taken
10 in the manner provided by law in the case of land taken
11 for laying out of highways.

Sect. 3. From the proceeds of bonds issued by the state
2 of Maine for the purposes of this act as hereinafter pro-
3 vided, the treasurer of the state shall pay all damages to
4 property sustained by any person, firm or corporation by
5 the taking of any land or any right or easement therein
6 by either of the methods provided in section two. Any per-
7 son, firm or corporation sustaining damages as aforesaid
8 and failing to agree with the directors as to the amount
9 therefor, may have the same assessed and determined in
10 the manner provided by law in case of land taken for lay-
11 ing out of highways.

Sect. 4. The state highway commission shall have power
2 to lease for a period not exceeding forty years to the Maine
3 Central Railroad or its successors, or assigns, or to any
4 other public utility, under such terms and conditions as they
5 may prescribe, the right to use a portion of said bridge
6 and its approaches for the purpose of laying tracks and for
7 the passage of trains over said bridge. The said commis-
8 sion may also lease for the same period rights to telephone,
9 telegraph and water companies and other utilities to use
10 the bridge.

Sect. 5. The commission may apply to the National Bu-
2 reau of Public Roads for an appropriation to assist in the

3 construction of the highway portion of said bridge, and any
4 funds received shall be used either in its construction or
5 in retiring bonds already issued by the state of Maine for
6 such construction.

In case the commission secures an appropriation from the
2 National Bureau of Public Roads to an amount equal to
3 one-half the expense of constructing the highway portion
4 of said bridge, then, at the discretion of the commission and
5 with the consent of the governor and council, the same may
6 be erected as a free bridge.

Sect. 6. From the proceeds of bonds issued by the state
2 for the purpose of building and maintaining said Maine
3 Kennebec Bridge and its approaches, as embodied in a reso-
4 lution of the legislature proposing an amendment to article
5 nine of the constitution, if said amendment shall be adopted,
6 the state treasurer is hereby authorized, with the approval
7 of the governor and council, to disburse and pay said
8 moneys as are herein authorized for the purpose of carry-
9 ing out the provisions of this act. The said treasurer is
10 further empowered to issue bonds as authorized by said
11 proposed amendment, if the same be adopted, in such form
12 and in such amounts, not exceeding the total amount pro-
13 vided in said proposed amendment, from time to time, as
14 said commission may require and the governor and council
15 order.

Sect. 7. If assistance is not secured from the National
2 Bureau of Public Roads as provided in section five of this

3 act, said bridge shall be a state toll bridge until the revenue
4 therefrom shall amount to a sum sufficient to retire the
5 bonds issued therefor, at which time the highway portion
6 of said bridge shall be free to public travel.

Sect. 8. If the commission is unable to arrange with the
2 Maine Central Railroad for its use of said bridge as afore-
3 said and payment therefor of an annual rental of at least
4 thirty thousand dollars, or to arrange with said railroad
5 to assume and pay one-half the cost of construction and
6 maintenance of said bridge and its approaches, then, in
7 such case, the said commission shall erect a bridge with
8 sufficient roadway for teams, automobiles, trucks and per-
9 sons on foot at a cost not to exceed five hundred and fifty
10 thousand dollars.

Sect. 9. If the said railroad shall assume and pay one-
2 half the cost of construction and maintenance of said bridge
3 and its approaches as aforesaid, it shall have the right to
4 act jointly with said commission in all matters pertaining
5 to such construction, maintenance and management.

Sect. 10. This act shall not take effect until it shall have
2 been determined by the commission, that the entire cost,
3 to the state, of construction and equipment, of said com-
4 bination railroad and highway bridge and its approaches
5 shall not exceed the sum of one million and sixty thousand
6 dollars; nor in case of the erection of a highway bridge as
7 provided in section eight of this act, until it shall have been
8 determined by the commission that the entire cost, to the

9 state, of such construction and equipment shall not exceed
10 the sum of five hundred and fifty thousand dollars.