

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 462

H. D. No. 95

House of Representatives, Feb. 10, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Audibert of Fort Kent.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLVE, in Favor of Building a Bridge at Fort Kent Over
the St. John River.

Resolved: That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of ninety-eight thousand two hundred and fifty dollars
3 (\$98,250.00) to be expended in the construction of an inter-
4 national bridge over the St. John river between the town
5 of Fort Kent, Aroostook county, Maine, and the village
6 of Clairs in the parish of St. Francis, county of Mada-
7 waska, province of New Brunswick; provided, that the ap-
8 propriations contemplated by chapter one hundred and thir-
9 ty-three, resolves of nineteen hundred and twenty-three,
10 shall be made available as follows, viz: The sum of six-

11 teen thousand five hundred dollars (\$16,500.00) shall be
12 secured from the state highway and bridge loan fund as
13 provided in said chapter, except, that this sum shall hereby
14 be made available until June thirtieth, nineteen hundred
15 and twenty-seven; the sum of seven thousand dollars
16 (\$7,000.00) shall be appropriated by the town of Fort Kent
17 and the sum of eight thousand two hundred and fifty dol-
18 lars (\$8,250.00) shall be appropriated by the county of
19 Aroostook; provided further that the town of Fort Kent
20 shall render available for the construction of the bridge
21 without cost to the state all right of way areas required
22 for the construction of the Maine approach to the bridge;
23 provided further, that the foregoing state, county and town
24 appropriations shall not be expended nor shall their ex-
25 penditure be contemplated until or unless the Dominion of
26 Canada or the province of New Brunswick shall provide
27 and authorize the expenditure of a sum of money adequate
28 to pay one-half the cost of the substructure and super-
29 structure of the bridge proper and the complete construc-
30 tion of the New Brunswick approach thereof; provided
31 further, that the expenditure of the foregoing appropria-
32 tions and the planning and construction of the bridge in
33 so far as the state of Maine shall be concerned shall be
34 under the direction and supervision of the state highway
35 commission.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Seventy-sixth Legislature, 1913, by Chapter 321 of its Resolves made available an appropriation for the construction of an international bridge over the St. John river between Fort Kent, Maine, and Clairs, St. Francis Parish, New Brunswick. Difficulty of a local nature was encountered in selecting a location for the bridge and although succeeding Legislatures in 1915, 1917 and 1919 continued the appropriation, it failed to secure passage in 1921.

The Eighty-first Legislature, 1923, made available \$16,500 conditional upon the town of Fort Kent and the county of Aroostook appropriating \$7,000 and \$8,250 respectively and provided the Dominion of Canada or the province of New Brunswick should make available an appropriation adequate to defray the expense of constructing to that extent the Canadian portion of the structure. This appropriation being only sufficient to provide for the construction of the Maine approach to the bridge and a portion of the substructure, and the Dominion of Canada's appropriation being conditioned upon the State of Maine providing an appropriation adequate to cover its portion of the total cost of the structure, the construction of the bridge could not be commenced.

The Dominion Department of Public Works' estimates for the current year include an amount adequate to cover the cost of the Canadian portion of the bridge. These estimates are to be submitted for action of the Dominion Parliament at its coming session.