

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 972

H. D. No. 257

House of Representatives, Mar. 3, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Public Utilities and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Wing of Auburn.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Section 72 of Chapter 56 of the Revised Statutes, as Amended by Chapter 16 of the Public Laws of 1921, Relating to the Ringing of the Engine Bell or Sounding of the Whistle at Grade Crossings.

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

Section 72 of Chapter 56 of the Revised Statutes is hereby
2 amended by striking out the word "eighty" in line fourteen,
3 the word "seventy-five" in line fifteen, and the word "eighty"
4 in line twenty-two, and substituting therefor the word 'sixty'
5 in line fourteen. the word 'sixty' in line fifteen, and the
6 word 'sixty' in line twenty-two, and by adding the word
7 'beginning' in the seventeenth line before the word "at."

8 and by adding the word 'beginning' before the word 'at'
9 in the eighteenth line, so that said section, as amended, shall
10 read as follows:

'Sect. 72. Whistles must be sounded in cities and vil-
2 lages in addition to ringing of the bell unless public utilities
3 commission, upon petition of the corporation, of municipal
4 officers or of ten or more legal voters orders it discontinued;
5 distances from crossings where warning is to be sounded
6 changed. Every railroad corporation shall cause sign-
7 boards with the words "Railroad Crossing" distinctly painted
8 on each side thereof in letters plainly legible, to be placed
9 and constantly maintained at the side of highways and town
10 ways where they are crossed at grade by such railroads, on
11 posts or other structures, in such position as to be easily
12 seen by persons passing upon such ways; and every such
13 corporation shall cause a steam whistle, and a bell of at
14 least thirty-five pounds in weight to be placed upon each
15 locomotive used upon its railroad, and such whistles shall be
16 sounded as a warning beginning at a distance of sixty rods
17 on standard gauge railroads and beginning at a distance of
18 sixty rods on narrow gauge railroads from all crossings of
19 such ways on the same level, unless the public utilities com-
20 mission upon petition of the corporation or of the municipal
21 officers or of ten or more legal voters of any city or town
22 in which such crossing is located, after notice and hearing,
23 shall order the sounding of such whistle to be discontinued
24 in any city or village until further order of the commission;

25 and such bell shall be rung at a distance of sixty rods on
26 standard gauge railroads and sixty rods on narrow gauge
27 railroads, from such grade crossings, and be kept ringing
28 until the engine has passed the same; provided, however,
29 that upon petition of ten or more legal voters of the state,
30 after notice to the railroad corporation and a public hearing,
31 the public utilities commission may in writing order such
32 corporation to give additional warning to travelers upon such
33 ways by requiring the sounding of such whistles or the ring-
34 ing of such bells at other places where said railroads cross
35 such public ways other than at grade or run contiguous
36 thereto, and such orders shall have the same force, and place
37 the same obligations upon railroad corporations as when
38 required under the provisions of this section.'