

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

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H. P. No. 1091

H. D. No. 316

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House of Representatives, Mar. 10, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Interior Waters and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Piper of Jackman.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT Giving Additional Powers to the Public Utilities  
Commission.

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

Chapter fifty-five of the revised statutes is hereby amended  
2 by adding after section eight thereof, the following sections:

'Sect. 9. The commission shall collect information relating  
2 to the water powers of the state, the flow of rivers and  
3 their drainage area, the location, nature and size of the  
4 lakes and ponds in the state and their respective value and  
5 capacity as storage reservoirs, and such other hydrographic  
6 data as they may deem of value in devising the best methods  
7 for the improvement of the natural storage basins of the

8 state, and the creation of new storage reservoirs, with a  
9 view to conserving and increasing the capacity of the water  
10 powers of the state.

Sect. 10. The commission may confer with the director  
2 or the representative of the United States geological survey  
3 and accept its cooperation in the prosecution of hydro-  
4 graphic and geological surveys, and the preparation of a  
5 contour topographic survey and map of the state.

Sect. 11. Every person, firm or corporation before com-  
2 mencing the erection of a dam for the purpose of develop-  
3 ing any water power in this state, or the creation or im-  
4 provement of a water storage basin or reservoir for the  
5 purpose of controlling the waters of any of the lakes or  
6 rivers of the state, shall file with said commission for its  
7 information and use copies of plans for the construction  
8 of any such dam or storage basin or reservoir, and a state-  
9 ment giving the location, height and nature of the proposed  
10 dam and appurtenant structures and the estimated power  
11 to be developed thereby; and in case a dam is to be con-  
12 structed solely for the purpose of water storage and not  
13 for the development of a water power at its site, plans and  
14 statements shall be filed with the commission showing the  
15 extent of the land to be flowed, the estimated number of  
16 cubic feet of water that may be stored and the estimated  
17 effect upon the flow of the stream or streams to be affected  
18 thereby.

Sect. 12. The commission shall publish in its *annual* report an account of its operations and include any data that it may collect bearing on the water powers and water sources of the state; and upon a comprehensive and practical plan for the improvement and creation of such water storage basins and reservoirs as will tend to develop and conserve the water powers of the state. The commission shall also report so far as its investigations will permit on the development of the water powers of the state with reference to the general plan proposed so that the legislature may have before it a comprehensive summary of the possibilities that lie in the development of the water powers of the state, as a natural resource and the necessary steps that should be taken by the state to further increase and conserve them.

Sect. 13. So far as any proposed plan devised by the commission for the improvement and increase of water storage basins or reservoirs shall include the construction of a dam or dams upon or at the head waters of any river or water course, the commission shall ascertain and report as nearly as may be the water storage capacity in cubic feet of the reservoir to be created, the recorded rainfall on the watershed above such proposed dam, and the maximum, minimum and average flow of water per second in cubic feet during each month in the year in said river or water course. They shall as nearly as practicable estimate the increased

12 power that would be developed by such proposed dam in  
13 the rivers or streams to be affected thereby.

Sect. 14. The Maine Water Power Commission is hereby  
2 directed to turn over to the public utilities commission, all  
3 records, maps, papers, instruments and property that were  
4 transferred to it by authority of chapter one hundred and  
5 thirty-two of the public laws of nineteen hundred and nine-  
6 teen, and also all records, maps and papers that it has since  
7 compiled and collected in carrying out the provisions of said  
8 chapter.

Sect. 15. Chapter one hundred and thirty-two of the pub-  
2 lic laws of nineteen hundred and nineteen is hereby re-  
3 pealed.'