

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 1141

H. D. No. 359

House of Representatives, March 11, 1925.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Norwood of Warren.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Creating the Maine Power Authority and Defining
Its Duties.

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

Section 1. The Maine Power Authority is hereby created
2 as a body corporate and politic, having the powers and juris-
3 diction hereinafter enumerated. It shall consist of three
4 trustees, to be appointed by the governor for terms of two,
5 four and six years respectively, and thereafter for terms of
6 six years each. The trustees shall elect their own chair-
7 man; they shall be entitled to their necessary expenses.

Sect. 2. The Authority is hereby vested with title to all
2 the power resources available for the generation of hydro-

3 electric energy in or upon the Saint Johns river and inland
4 streams and waterways now owned by the state. Such
5 resources shall include all undeveloped water powers on
6 these rivers, streams and waterways to which the state has
7 any right, title or interest by reason of its ownership of the
8 beds or banks thereof or otherwise.

Sect. 3. These power resources and the sites, works and
2 improvements established or undertaken in the development
3 of these resources shall always remain under the ownership
4 and control of the Authority for the benefit of the people
5 of the state and shall not be sold, conveyed, exchanged or
6 leased to any person or private corporation.

Sect. 4. The Authority shall have full power to develop
2 these resources for the generation of hydro-electric energy
3 and for the sale and distribution of such energy in the
4 interest of all the people of the state; and to issue bonds
5 for financing such development, which bonds shall be ex-
6 empt from state taxation and shall be secured entirely by
7 the revenues to be derived from operation, without involv-
8 ing any pledge of the state's credit; but the powers granted
9 under this section shall not be exercised by the Authority
10 until the legislature shall have approved the plan for the
11 development of the state's power resources as hereinafter
12 provided.

Sect. 5. The Authority shall make a comprehensive power
2 survey, and, on or before January fifteenth, nineteen hun-
3 dred and twenty-seven, shall submit to the governor and the

4 legislature a plan for the generation of hydro-electric en-
5 ergy and its distribution, with an estimate of the cost of
6 such development.

Sect. 6. The Authority is empowered to represent the
2 state in negotiations with the United States government, the
3 province of New Brunswick and the Dominion of Canada,
4 to determine and settle the rights of ownership upon the
5 said Saint Johns river, such determination and settlement
6 to be approved by the legislature.

Sect. 7. The sum of ten thousand dollars, or so much
2 thereof as may be necessary, payable out of any moneys in
3 the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, is hereby
4 appropriated for the use of the Authority for expenses and
5 for maintenance and operation, including personal service.
6 The Authority may employ such officers and employees as
7 it may require for the performance of its duties, and shall
8 fix and determine their salaries, within this appropriation,
9 as well as their qualifications and duties. The moneys so
10 appropriated shall be paid out of the treasury on the war-
11 rant of the comptroller, upon the certificate of the chairman
12 of the Authority.