

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

Senate Document

No. 262

S. P. 524

In Senate, March 22, 1927.

Reports and new draft tabled by Senator Oakes of Cumberland pending consideration. Reports and new draft ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Create a Commission to Investigate and to Negotiate a Compact, Regarding Water Power and Electricity in New England.

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

The governor and council shall appoint five commissioners
2 who shall represent the state of Maine upon a joint com-
3 mission composed of commissioners representing the states
4 of Maine and New Hampshire and the Commonwealth of
5 Massachusetts, to be constituted by the legislatures thereof,
6 upon which joint commission similar commissioners of the
7 states of Vermont, Rhode Island and Connecticut shall also
8 be invited to be members and act, for the purpose of nego-

9 tiating and entering into a compact, agreement or treaty
10 between said states and said commonwealth, with the con-
11 sent of Congress, to cover comprehensively all matters re-
12 lating to the conservation, use and development of the
13 water power resources of said states and said commonwealth
14 and the making, generating, selling, transmitting, distribut-
15 ing and supplying of hydro-electricity and electricity other-
16 wise developed. Provided, however, that any compact,
17 agreement or treaty so entered into on behalf of said states
18 and said commonwealth shall not be binding or obligatory
19 upon any of said states or said commonwealth or the citi-
20 zens thereof, unless and until the same shall have been rati-
21 fied and approved by the legislatures of said states and said
22 commonwealth and by the Congress of the United States.

Such joint commission shall report the terms of such com-
2 pact, agreement or treaty as made and agreed upon to said
3 legislatures and shall recommend such legislation, both state
4 and federal, as may be necessary to render such compact,
5 agreement or treaty effective.

Such commissioners shall select one of their number to
2 be chairman of the joint commission, and may employ a
3 secretary and such engineering, legal and other professional
4 assistance and such stenographic and clerical help as may
5 be required, to enable them effectively to prosecute and
6 advance the negotiations herein provided for.

The commissioners appointed for the state of Maine prior
2 to and during the negotiations herein set forth shall, as a

3 part of their duties, conduct a thorough investigation of
4 the economic, engineering and legal problems involved in
5 determining upon the terms and conditions of said compact
6 and of any other legislation that may be required to safe-
7 guard the rights and privileges of the citizens of this state
8 relating to the transmitting of electricity beyond the bound-
9 ary of the state and shall report the result of their investi-
10 gation together with their recommendations, to the gov-
11 ernor and council who shall transmit the same to the legis-
12 lature. For the purposes set forth in this paragraph they
13 shall employ such engineering, legal and other assistance,
14 independent of the assistance of the joint commission, as
15 may be required.

Such commissioners shall be paid the necessary expenses
2 incurred in the performance of their duties, but shall serve
3 without compensation.

The sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or so much
2 thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the
3 expense of the commission, for each of the fiscal years end-
4 ing June thirty, nineteen hundred twenty-eight and June
5 thirty, nineteen hundred twenty-nine, to be paid by the state
6 treasurer monthly on vouchers approved by the governor
7 and council.

Neither the creation of such commission nor any act there-
2 of shall affect the existing law or policy of the state regard-
3 ing water power or electricity until the ratification of their
4 proceedings as hereinbefore provided for.

MAJORITY REPORT

The Joint Committee on Public Utilities, Interior Waters, Judiciary, to which was referred the Bill, entitled "An Act to create a Commission to Negotiate a Treaty Regarding Water Power and Electricity in New England," have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to Report that the same ought not to pass.

Per Order.

MAHER

DUNBAR

GRANVILLE

RICHARDSON

MILLIKEN

J. SHERMAN DOUGLAS

CHASE

E. A. PIPER

HALE

GREENLEAF

PAGE

BISHOP

HUGHES

BRIGGS

DUDLEY

ALDRICH

TUCKER

DOUGLAS

MINORITY REPORT

The Joint Committee on Public Utilities, Interior Waters, Judiciary, to which was referred the Bill, entitled "An Act to Create a Commission to Negotiate a Treaty Regarding Water Power and Electricity in New England," have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to Report the same in a new draft under the title of "An Act to Create a Commission to Investigate and to Negotiate a Compact, Regarding Water Power and Electricity in New England," and that it ought to pass.

Per Order.

OAKES

LORD

DRAKE

POWERS

PATTERSON

COMINS

ROBERT D. THURSTON

CARTER

CRAFTS

WING of Kingfield

WING of Auburn

BARTLETT of Bangor