

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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House Document

No. 208

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H. P. 716

House of Representatives, Feb. 5, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges and 1,000 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Hawkes of Richmond.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to Provide for the Building of a Highway Bridge  
across the Kennebec River between the Towns of Richmond  
and Dresden.

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

Section 1. The state highway commission is hereby au-  
2 thorized and directed to locate and establish a highway  
3 bridge to be known as "Maine Kennebec Bridge" across the  
4 Kennebec river from a point in Richmond on the Richmond  
5 side of said river, at the present public ferry landing, or at  
6 a point not exceeding six hundred and fifty feet north of  
7 said public ferry landing, to a point in Dresden, on the  
8 Dresden side of said river, at the present public ferry land-

ing, or at a point not exceeding seven hundred feet north  
of said public ferry landing, at a cost not to exceed five  
hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and said commission  
is hereby authorized and empowered to locate and establish  
or cause to be located and established a public highway  
from said point in Richmond over and across said bridge  
and river, to said point in said Dresden.

Sect. 2. The commission shall hereinafter be known as  
the directors of the Maine Kennebec Bridge. After the  
completion of the said bridge and its approaches, the direc-  
tors shall have charge of the maintenance and management  
of the bridge, with full power to make and execute contracts  
with telephone, telegraph and water companies or other  
utilities who may wish to use said bridge.

Sect. 3. The directors shall as soon as possible after this  
act takes effect, secure all necessary plans and specifications  
for a bridge including suitable approaches, piers and abut-  
ments, said bridge to be of sufficient width and strength to  
insure the safe and convenient passage across said river, of  
teams automobiles, trucks and all other forms of vehicular  
traffic, and to have one sidewalk at least three feet wide for  
pedestrians. Said bridge shall contain such draw as shall  
be satisfactory to the United States War Department.

Sect. 4. The directors may take as for public uses, acquire  
by purchase, by right of eminent domain or otherwise, and  
hold in the name of the state, such real estate and such  
rights and easements therein as the directors may from time

5 to time consider necessary for the location and construction  
6 of said bridge and for the necessary highways and ap-  
7 proaches to said bridge, and may lay out and build such  
8 highway approaches as in the opinion of the directors may  
9 seem necessary. Any property taken as for public uses and  
10 by right of eminent domain shall be taken in the manner  
11 provided by law in the case of land taken for laying out of  
12 highways.

Sect. 5. The treasurer of the state shall pay, from the  
2 funds appropriated for the purposes of this act, all damages  
3 sustained by any person, firm or corporation by the taking  
4 of any land or any right or easement therein by either of  
5 the methods provided in section four. Any person, firm or  
6 corporation sustaining damages as aforesaid and failing to  
7 agree with the directors, as to the amount thereof, may have  
8 the same assessed and determined in the manner provided  
9 by law, in case of land taken for the laying out of highways.

Sect. 6. The directors may apply to the National Bureau  
2 of Public Roads, in behalf of the state, for an appropriation  
3 to assist in the construction of said bridge, and any funds  
4 received from this source, shall be used either in its con-  
5 struction, or in reimbursing the state for money already  
6 expended for such construction.

Sect. 7. From the money appropriated for the construc-  
2 tion of said bridge the state treasurer is hereby authorized,  
3 with the approval of the governor and council, to pay in  
4 the name of the state, in such form and in such amount,

5 not exceeding the total amount provided for in section one,  
6 from time to time, as said directors may require and the  
7 governor and council order.

Sect. 8. Said bridge when constructed shall be operated  
2 as a toll bridge until the revenue therefrom shall amount to  
3 a sum sufficient to reimburse the state, for the amount ap-  
4 propriated for the purposes of this act, at which time the  
5 bridge shall be free to public travel, except that travelers on  
6 foot shall be allowed to cross said bridge free from the pay-  
7 ment of toll. The directors shall charge and collect such  
8 tolls for use and crossing of said bridge by vehicles and  
9 other traffic (other than foot passengers) as may from time  
10 to time be determined and ordered by the public utilities  
11 commission. The public utilities commission is hereby au-  
12 thorized and directed to establish and promulgate the tolls  
13 to be charged. Said commission may from time to time  
14 establish and promulgate new tolls and may provide for the  
15 issue of trip or commutation tickets at less than the regular  
16 tolls, good for a definite number of passages across said  
17 bridge within a specified time, having regard to the value of  
18 the service rendered, and the requirements for upkeep, main-  
19 tenance, repairs and operation of said bridge, and the pro-  
20 viding for the payment of interest on the amount appro-  
21 priated. All money collected as tolls shall be regularly de-  
22 posited by the directors, in some bank or trust company,  
23 designated therefor by the governor and council, and on the  
24 first secular day of each month the balance so on deposit

25 shall be transmitted by them to the state treasurer. From  
26 the funds so received the state treasurer on warrants signed  
27 by the directors and approved by the governor and council  
28 and by the state auditor, shall pay all bills for maintenance,  
29 upkeep, repairs and operation of said bridge, and shall also  
30 pay the interest on the amount appropriated for the pur-  
31 poses of this act, any balance shall be held by him as a  
32 separate fund for the reimbursement of the amount appro-  
33 priated, as provided in this act.

Sect. 9. This act shall not take effect until it shall have  
2 been determined by the directors that the entire cost to the  
3 state for the construction and equipment of said bridge shall  
4 not exceed five hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Sect. 10. The expenses attendant upon the construction  
2 of said bridge shall be paid from the proceeds of the bonds  
3 of the state already issued which are devoted to the building  
4 of intrastate bridges.