

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 391

H. P. 1196 House of Representatives, February 15, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Holman of Farmington.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend the "Bridge Act," so called, Providing for
State and County Aid in the Construction of Highway
Bridges.

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

Section 1. Section two of chapter three hundred and
2 nineteen of the public laws of nineteen hundred and fifteen,
3 as amended by section one of chapter one hundred fifty-
4 three, of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-
5 seven, is hereby further amended by striking out all of said
6 section and substituting therefor the following, so that said
7 section two as amended, shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 2. The cost of construction of a bridge built or re-
2 built under the provisions of this act shall be divided as
3 follows: When the cost of said construction makes a tax
4 rate of five mills or less on the valuation of the town last
5 made by the board of state assessors, forty-five per cent by
6 the town, thirty per cent by the county in which said town
7 is located and twenty-five per cent by the state; when the
8 tax rate determined as above is ten mills the cost shall be
9 borne as follows: Forty per cent by the town, thirty per
10 cent by the county and thirty per cent by the state; when
11 the tax rate determined as above is fifteen mills the cost
12 shall be borne as follows: Thirty-five per cent by the town,
13 thirty per cent by the county, and thirty-five per cent by
14 the state; when the tax rate determined as above is twenty
15 mills the cost shall be borne as follows: Thirty per cent
16 by the town, thirty per cent by the county, and forty per
17 cent by the state; when the tax rate determined as above is
18 thirty mills the cost shall be borne as follows: Twenty-five
19 per cent by the town, thirty per cent by the county and
20 forty-five per cent by the state; when the tax rate deter-
21 mined as above is forty mills the cost shall be borne as fol-
22 lows: Twenty per cent by the town, thirty per cent by the
23 county and fifty per cent by the state; when the tax rate
24 determined as above is sixty mills the cost shall be borne
25 as follows: Fifteen per cent by the town, thirty per cent
26 by the county and fifty-five per cent by the state; when
27 the tax rate determined as above is eighty mills the cost

28 shall be borne as follows: Twelve per cent by the town,
29 thirty per cent by the county and fifty-eight per cent by the
30 state; when the tax rate determined as above is one hun-
31 dred mills the cost shall be borne as follows: Ten per cent
32 by the town, thirty per cent by the county and sixty per
33 cent by the state. For intermediate tax rates the percentage
34 of cost to be borne by the town and state shall be propor-
35 tional, computed to the nearest tenth of one per cent. When
36 the tax rate determined as above is over one hundred mills
37 the town shall pay a fixed sum, equivalent to one per cent
38 of its state valuation, the county thirty per cent of the cost
39 of construction, and the state the balance. The cost of re-
40 construction of a bridge owned and maintained wholly by
41 the county, but located in a town or organized plantation,
42 shall be borne as follows: Fifty per cent by the county and
43 fifty per cent by the state.

Providing, however, that whenever there is built or rebuilt
2 under this act any bridge upon a state highway, which
3 bridge lies in whole or in part in a town of four thousand
4 (4,000) inhabitants or less, according to the last federal
5 census, the county or counties wherein such bridge is locat-
6 ed shall pay the amount or amounts required by the provi-
7 sions of this act, and the state shall pay the balance

In the event of two bridges being built or rebuilt simul-
2 taneously, or practically so, in the same town the basis for
3 computing the tax rate applicable and used in determining
4 the apportionment of cost to be borne by the state and town

5 shall be the total cost of each bridge as a separate unit, and
6 the apportionments shall be determined and assessed sepa-
7 rately for each bridge. The cost of construction shall in-
8 clude the complete cost of the bridge proper and such en-
9 bankments, surfacing and other work as is necessary to pro-
10 vide proper, adequate and safe approaches to the bridge;
11 the maintenance of traffic by temporary detours and struc-
12 tures whenever existing highways cannot satisfactorily be
13 used for such service; and such charges for engineering, ad-
14 vertising and inspection as may be incurred in the prelimi-
15 nary and actual construction phases of the work.

Unless otherwise expressed or implied, wherever the word
2 “town” occurs in this act, it shall mean to include towns,
3 cities, organized plantations, and unorganized townships.

The words “main thoroughfare” as used in this act shall
2 mean only such state highways, state aid highways, and
3 third class highways as have been so designated, determined
4 and accepted by the state highway commission to receive
5 aid from the state as provided by law, and the word
6 “bridge” shall mean only such a structure as shall require
7 a span of ten or more feet, between the faces of the abut-
8 ments thereof.’

Sect. 2. Said chapter three hundred and nineteen of the
2 public laws of nineteen hundred and fifteen, and acts amen-
3 datory thereof and additional thereto, is hereby further
4 amended by adding thereto the following section:

‘Sect. 13. Under the provisions of this act not more than

2 two bridges may be built or rebuilt in any one town in any
3 one calendar year, except when in the unanimous judgment
4 of the joint board an emergency exists and public necessity
5 and safety require the immediate building or rebuilding of
6 the bridge petitioned for.'

Sect. 3. The provisions of this act shall apply to all
2 bridges, the construction of which, under the provisions of
3 chapter three hundred and nineteen of the public laws of
4 nineteen hundred and fifteen, as amended, is begun after
5 January fifteenth, nineteen hundred and twenty-nine.