

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 741

H. P. 1682 House of Representatives, March 25, 1929.

Reported by Mr. Kitchen from Committee on Ways and
Bridges and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

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

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
6 at a point not exceeding six hundred and fifty feet north
7 of said public ferry landing, to a point in Dresden, on the
8 Dresden side of said river, at the present public ferry land-

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

Sect. 2. The commission shall hereinafter be known as
2 the directors of the Maine Kennebec Bridge. After the
3 completion of the said bridge and its approaches, the di-
4 rectors shall have charge of the maintenance and manage-
5 ment of the bridge, with full power to make and execute
6 contracts with telephone, telegraph and water companies or
7 other utilities who may wish to use said bridge.

Sect. 3. The directors shall as soon as possible after this
2 act takes effect, secure all necessary plans and specifica-
3 tions for a bridge including suitable approaches, piers and
4 abutments, said bridge to be of sufficient width and strength
5 to insure the safe and convenient passage across said river,
6 of teams, automobiles, trucks and all other forms of vehicu-
7 lar traffic. Said bridge shall contain such draw as shall be
8 satisfactory to the United States war department.

Sect. 4. The directors may take as for public uses, ac-
2 quire by purchase, by right of eminent domain or other-
3 wise, and hold in the name of the state, such real estate
4 and such rights and easements therein as the directors may
5 from time to time consider necessary for the location and

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

Sect. 5. The treasurer of state shall pay, from the funds
2 appropriated for the purposes of this act, all damages sus-
3 tained by any person, firm or corporation by the taking of
4 any land or any right or easement therein by either of the
5 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
8 have the same assessed and determined in the manner pro-
9 vided by law, in case of land taking for the laying out of
10 highways.

Sect. 6. The directors may apply to the National Bureau
2 of Public Roads, in behalf of the state, for an appropria-
3 tion to assist in the construction of said bridge, and any
4 funds received from this source, shall be used either in its
5 construction, 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 not

5 exceeding the total amount provided for in section one, from
6 time to time, as said directors may require and the governor
7 and council order.

Sect. 8. Said bridge when constructed shall be operated
2 as a toll bridge until the revenue therefrom shall amount
3 to a sum sufficient to reimburse the state, for the amount
4 appropriated for the purposes of this act, at which time the
5 bridge shall be free to public travel. The directors shall
6 charge and collect such tolls for use and crossing of said
7 bridge by vehicles and travellers on foot, and other traffic
8 as may from time to time be determined and ordered by
9 the public utilities commission. The public utilities commis-
10 sion is hereby authorized and directed to establish and pro-
11 mulgate the tolls to be charged. Said commission may from
12 time to time establish and promulgate new tolls and may
13 provide for the issue of trip or commutation tickets at less
14 than the regular tolls, good for a definite number of pass-
15 ages across said bridge within a specified time, having re-
16 gard to the value of the service rendered, and the require-
17 ments for upkeep, maintenance, repairs and operation of
18 said bridge, and the providing for the payment of interest
19 on the amount appropriated. All money collected as tolls
20 shall be regularly deposited by the directors, in some bank
21 or trust company designated therefor by the governor and
22 council, and on the first secular day of each month the bal-
23 ance so on deposit shall be transmitted by them to the state
24 treasurer. From the funds so received the state treasurer

25 on warrants signed by the directors and approved by the
26 governor and council and by the state auditor, shall pay all
27 bills for maintenance, upkeep, repairs and operation of
28 said bridge, and shall also pay the interest on the amount
29 appropriated for the purposes of this act, any balance shall
30 be held by him as a separate fund for the reimbursement
31 of the amount appropriated, 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
4 shall not exceed two hundred and sixty 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.