

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

---

---

# EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 674**

---

---

H. P. 1100            House of Representatives, Feb. 18, 1931.  
Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies  
ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bowers of Portland.

---

---

## STATE OF MAINE

---

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

---

AN ACT Relating to Whistling at Crossings by Railroads.

---

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

Section seventy-two of chapter sixty-three of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out in the ninth, tenth, sixteenth and seventeenth lines of said section the word "sixty" and inserting in place thereof the word 'fifty'; and by inserting in the eighteenth line after the word "ringing" the words 'and such whistle shall be sounded at intervals,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 72. Sign-boards to be maintained at grade crossings; bell on engine and when to be rung; public utilities commission may require whistle or sounding of bell for warning. Every railroad corporation shall cause sign-boards with the words "Railroad Crossing" distinctly painted on each side thereof in letters plainly legible, to be placed and constantly maintained at the side of highways and town ways where they are crossed at grade by such railroads, on posts or other structures, in such position as to be easily seen by persons passing upon such ways; and every such corporation shall cause a steam whistle, and a bell of at least thirty-five pounds in weight to be placed upon each locomotive used upon its railroad, and such whistles shall be sounded as a warning beginning at a distance of fifty rods on standard gauge railroads

and beginning at a distance of fifty rods on narrow gauge railroads from all crossings of such ways on the same level, unless the public utilities commission upon petition of the corporation or of the municipal officers or of ten or more legal voters of any city or town in which such crossing is located, after notice and hearing, shall order the sounding of such whistle to be discontinued in any city or village until further order of the commission; and such bell shall be rung at a distance of fifty rods on standard gauge railroads and fifty rods on narrow gauge railroads, from such grade crossings, and be kept ringing and such whistle shall be sounded at intervals, until the engine has passed the same; provided, however, that upon petition of ten or more legal voters of the state, after notice to the railroad corporation and a public hearing, the public utilities commission may in writing order such corporation to give additional warning to travelers upon such ways by requiring the sounding of such whistles or the ringing of such bells at other places where said railroads cross such public ways other than at grade or run contiguous thereto, and such orders shall have the same force, and place the same obligations upon railroad corporations as when required under the provisions of this section.'