

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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S. P. 407

In Senate, February 11, 1941.

Referred to the Committee on Public Utilities and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Batchelder of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-ONE

**AN ACT Providing for the Regulation of the Use of the Highways by
Motor Vehicles Transporting Property for Hire.**

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

P. L., 1933, c. 259, § 5, amended. Section 5 (D) of the public laws of 1933, as amended, hereby is amended to read as follows :

‘(D) The commission is hereby vested with power and authority and it is hereby made its duty to prescribe rules and regulations covering the operations of contract carriers (in competition with common carriers) over the highways of this state and the commission ~~shall~~ **may** prescribe **reasonable** minimum rates and charges to be collected by contract carriers which shall not be less than the rates charged by such common carriers for substantially the same or similar service. **It shall be the duty of every contract carrier to establish and observe reasonable minimum rates and charges for any service rendered or to be rendered in the transportation of property or in connection therewith, and to establish reasonable regulations and practices to be applied in connection with said reasonable minimum rates and charges; it shall be the duty of every contract carrier to file with the commission, publish and keep open for public inspection, in the form and manner prescribed by the commission, schedules containing the minimum rates or charges of such carrier actually maintained and**

charged for the transportation of property in intrastate commerce, and any rule, regulation, or practice affecting such rates or charges and the value of the service thereunder. Whenever, after hearing, upon complaint or in an investigation on its own motion, the commission finds that any minimum rate or charge of any contract carrier for the transportation of property, or any rule, regulation or practice of any such carrier affecting such minimum rate or charge of the value of the service thereunder, is unjust or unreasonable, or is contrary to the provisions of chapter 259 of the public laws of 1933, as amended, it shall prescribe the minimum rate or charge, or such rule, regulation or practice, as it shall find to be just and reasonable and to be necessary or desirable to carry out the provisions and intent of said chapter 259 as amended. No contract carrier shall charge less than the minimum rates or charges filed with or prescribed by the commission, but nothing in this act or in said chapter 259, as amended, shall prohibit any contract carrier from charging more than such minimum rates. Nothing in this paragraph shall apply to the transportation of property by contract carriers for any common carrier over the highway when the rate charged the public for transportation of such property is already published and filed with the commission.'