

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T I E T H            L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1025**

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S. P. 502

In Senate, March 19, 1941.

Reported by Senator Batchelder of York from Committee on Public Utilities and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-ONE

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

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

**P. L., 1933, c. 259, § 5, amended.** Paragraph lettered (D) of section 5 of chapter 259 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 hereby is 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, which rates and charges shall not be less than the rates charged by common carriers for substantially the same or similar service, and to establish reasonable rules regulations and practices to be applied in connection with said reasonable 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. Whenever, after hearing, upon complaint of interested parties 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, is unjust or unreasonable, or is contrary to the provisions of this chapter, 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 this chapter. No contract carrier shall charge less than the minimum rates or charges filed with or prescribed by the commission, but nothing in this chapter 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.'