

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 906**

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H. P. 789

House of Representatives, February 18, 1953.

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.  
Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hanson of Machiasport.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-THREE

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**RESOLVE, for Support of "Ruggles House" in Columbia Falls.**

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**Ruggles House; appropriation for. Resolved:** That there be, and hereby is, appropriated from the general fund in favor of Ruggles House Society the sum of \$1,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1954 and \$1,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955 to aid in the support and maintenance of the "Ruggles House" in Columbia Falls.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The Ruggles House was built in 1818 in Columbia Falls by Judge Thomas Ruggles, one of the early pioneers and lumber barons, and was continuously lived in by the Ruggles family until the death of Miss Elizabeth Ruggles in 1922. Originally it was one of the finest mansions in the state, containing one of the four real flying staircases in Maine and some of the best hand carving anywhere east of Portsmouth. A few years ago a group of people, now known as the Ruggles House Society, took over the old mansion from the Ruggles family and have been endeavoring to restore it and open it as a historic museum open to the public. They have

raised a certain amount of money and did quite a good deal to it, although a great deal still remains to be done. It is rapidly becoming both a historic museum and a real tourist attraction, a benefit to Washington county as over a thousand tourists signed the register last season.