

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 921

S. P. 341

In Senate, February 21, 1957.

Referred to Committee on Highways. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Martin of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Rehabilitation and Preservation of Covered Bridges.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 23, §§ 126-A—126-F, additional. Chapter 23 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 6 new sections to be numbered 126-A to 126-F, inclusive, to read as follows:

'Covered Bridges.

Sec. 126-A. Covered bridges. No existing covered bridge may be removed or replaced with other than a rebuilt covered bridge, on any public way in any municipality.

Sec. 126-B. Authorization. The State Highway Commission is authorized to assist in the rehabilitation of existing wooden covered bridges within the State on any public traveled way for the following purposes:

- I. Replacing of floor beams and reflooring;
- II. Reroofing;
- III. Repair or replacement of truss members and wooden arch members;
- IV. Replacement or repair of piers, abutments, wing walls and parts of sidewall; and
- V. All wooden replacements to have a wood preserving treatment.

Sec. 126-C. Carrying capacity of bridge. No funds shall be expended unless such bridge may be rehabilitated to a carrying capacity of at least 6 tons.

Sec. 126-D. Limitation on expenditures. The total amount that may be expended on any bridge under the provisions of sections 126-A to 126-F, inclusive, shall in no instance exceed the estimated sum that might be necessary for the construction or reconstruction of a new bridge.

Sec. 126-E. Maintenance. Any bridge rehabilitated under the provisions of sections 126-A to 126-F, inclusive, shall be subject to the provisions of maintenance that pertain to all bridges.

Sec. 126-F. Eligibility. No wooden covered bridge shall be eligible for aid beyond the necessary maintenance required, more than once, unless considerable damage is done by weather conditions beyond human control, and in no case may a municipality apply and receive aid on more than one bridge in any one year.'

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated from the general highway fund the sum of \$50,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958 and \$50,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1959 to carry out the purposes of this act.