

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1893.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
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PUBLIC LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE.

1893.

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**Chapter 153.**

An Act relating to Highway Ditches and Drains.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

SECT. 1. The municipal officers of a town may at the expense of the town construct ditches and drains to carry water away from any highway or road therein, and over or through any lands of persons or corporations when they deem it necessary for public convenience or for the proper care of such highway or road, provided that no such ditch or drain shall pass under nor within twenty feet of any dwelling house without the consent of the owner thereof. Such ditches or drains shall be under the control of said municipal officers and willful interference therewith shall be punished as is provided by statute for obstruction in a traveled road. If such town does not maintain and keep in repair such ditches and drains, the owner or occupant of the lands through or over which they pass, may have his action against the town for damages thereby sustained.

Towns may construct ditches and drains through lands of persons and corporations.

—shall be under control of municipal officers.

—liability for damages if not kept in repair.

SECT. 2. Before land is so taken, notice shall be given and damages assessed and paid therefor as is provided for the location of town ways.

Notice shall be given and damages assessed before land is taken.

Approved February 16, 1893.

**Chapter 154.**

An Act to amend chapter six, section fifty-two of the Revised Statutes, relating to taxes on Telephone Companies.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

SECT. 1. Section fifty-two of chapter six of the revised statutes is hereby amended, so as to read as follows:

Sec. 52, ch. 6, R. S., amended.

SECT. 52. Every telephone corporation, company or person doing business within the state, shall annually pay into the state treasury a tax of two and one-half per cent on the value of any telephone line owned by said corporation, company or person, within the state, including all poles, wires, insulators, transmitters, telephones, batteries, instruments, telephonic apparatus and office furniture; and also a

State taxation of telephone companies.