

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-second Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1925

Published by the Secretary of State, in accordance with the Resolves of the Legislature
approved June 28, 1820, March 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT SHOP
AUGUSTA, MAINE

1925

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Eighty-second Legislature

1925

[supplied from page 1 of volume]

five dollars for his apprehension and delivery. Whoever, not standing in the relation of husband or wife, parent or child to the principal offender, conceals, harbors, or in any way helps any convict escaping from the state reformatory for men knowing him to be such, or furnishes such convict with food, clothing, weapon, matches or other article, or information that would aid him to escape recapture, shall be punished for a term not exceeding the whole time for which the convict was sentenced, or by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars.

Approved April 9, 1925.

Chapter 187.

An Act to Give Additional Powers to the Public Utilities Commission.

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

R. S., c. 55; relating to powers and duties of public utilities commission, additional. Chapter fifty-five of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding after section eight thereof, the following sections:

'Sec. 9. Commission to collect information relating to water powers of state. The commission shall collect information relating to the water powers of the state, the flow of rivers and their drainage area, the location, nature and size of the lakes and ponds in the state and their respective value and capacity as storage reservoirs, and such other hydrographic data as they may deem of value in devising the best methods for the improvement of the natural storage basins of the state, and the creation of new storage reservoirs, with a view to conserving and increasing the capacity of the water powers of the state.

Sec. 10. Authorized to confer with U. S. Geological survey. The commission may confer with the director or the representative of the United States geological survey and accept its co-operation in the prosecution of hydrographic and geological surveys, and the preparation of a contour topographic survey and map of the state.

Sec. 11. Plans of proposed dams to be filed with commission before commencing construction thereof. Every person, firm or corporation before commencing the erection of a dam for the purpose of developing any water power in this state, or the creation or improvement of a water storage basin or reservoir for the purpose of controlling the waters of any of the lakes or rivers of the state, shall file with said commission for its information and use copies of plans for the construction of any such dam or storage basin or reservoir, and a statement giving the location, height and nature of the proposed dam and appurtenant structures and the estimated power to be developed thereby; and in case a dam is to be constructed solely for the purpose of water storage and

CHAP. 187

not for the development of a water power at its site, plans and statements shall be filed with the commission showing the extent of the land to be flowed, the estimated number of cubic feet of water that may be stored and the estimated effect upon the flow of the stream or streams to be affected thereby.

Sec. 12. Commission shall publish in its annual report data relating to water powers and resources. The commission shall publish in its biennial report an account of its operations and include such data as it may deem advisable bearing on the water powers and water resources of the state; and may report upon a comprehensive and practical plan for the improvement and creation of such water storage basins and reservoirs as will tend to develop and conserve the water powers of the state. The commission may also report so far as its investigations will permit on the development of the water powers of the state with reference to the general plan proposed so that the legislature may have before it a comprehensive summary of the possibilities that lie in the development of the water powers of the state, as a natural resource and the necessary steps that should be taken by the state to further increase and conserve them.

Sec. 13. Commission shall report water storage capacity and other data relating to dams proposed to be constructed. So far as any proposed plan devised by the commission for the improvement and increase of water storage basins or reservoirs shall include the construction of a dam or dams upon or at the head waters of any river or water course, the commission shall ascertain and report as nearly as may be the water storage capacity in cubic feet of the reservoir to be created, the recorded rainfall on the watershed above such proposed dam, and the maximum, minimum and average flow of water per second in cubic feet during each month in the year in said river or water course. They shall as nearly as practicable estimate the increased power that would be developed by such proposed dam in the rivers or streams to be affected thereby.

Sec. 14. Commission to take possession of all records, maps, property, etc., of Maine water power commission. The public utilities commission is hereby authorized and directed to take possession of all records, maps, papers, instruments and property that were by it transferred to the Maine water power commission by authority of chapter one hundred and thirty-two of the public laws of nineteen hundred and nineteen, and also all records, maps and papers that said Maine water power commission has since compiled and collected in carrying out the provisions of said chapter.

Sec. 15. P. L., 1919, c. 132; 1921, c. 203; repealed. Chapter one hundred and thirty-two of the public laws of nineteen hundred and nineteen

and chapter two hundred and three of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one are hereby repealed.'

Approved April 9, 1925.

Chapter 188.

An Act to Prohibit Advertising Signs upon Public Highways.

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

Sec. 1. Advertising signs on highways prohibited; signs approved by state highway commission for safeguarding travel, excepted. No person shall post, erect, display or maintain or cause to be posted, erected, displayed or maintained any sign, billboard, panel, placard, poster, notice or other advertising device, in, upon or above any public highway or so situated with respect to any public highway as to obstruct clear vision of an intersecting highway or highways or otherwise so situated as to prevent the safe use of the public highways; and such public highway shall be deemed the full width of the road as laid out by the county or the town.

Provided, that the provisions hereof shall not apply to the state or to any political subdivision thereof or to signs erected or maintained with the approval of the state highway commission solely for the purpose of safeguarding, facilitating or protecting travel along the highway.

Sec. 2. Penalty for violation of act; jurisdiction of offenses; state highway police to remove signs. Any person found guilty of violating the provisions of this act shall be punished by a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than five hundred dollars; and whoever after conviction of such violation unlawfully maintains any such sign, billboard, panel, placard, poster, notice or other advertising device for ten days after such conviction may be punished by a further fine of not more than fifty dollars for each day upon which such sign, billboard, panel, placard, poster, notice or other advertising device is maintained. Municipal courts and trial justices shall have jurisdiction to punish offenses under this act. The state highway police shall remove all signs, billboards, panels, placards, posters, notices or other advertising devices existing within the limits of the highway in violation hereof.

Approved April 9, 1925.