

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Ninety-fourth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Ninety-fourth Legislature

1949

Whereas, the present abnormal conditions require an extension of the suspension periods permitted for such investigations, in order that proposed rate increases may not become automatically effective without sufficient investigation; and

Whereas, it is essential that such extension be made seasonably for application to certain suspension periods currently in progress; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, now, therefore,

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

R. S., c. 40, § 34, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 34 of chapter 40 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Pending such investigation and order the commission may at any time within said period preceding the effective date of any such schedule, by filing with such schedule and delivering to the public utility affected thereby a statement of its reasons for said suspension, suspend the operation of such schedule or any part thereof, but not for a longer period than 3 months from the date of said order of suspension; provided, however, that if said investigation cannot be concluded within said period of 3 months said commission may in its discretion extend the time of suspension for a further period of 3 5 months; and provided further, that nothing in this section contained shall apply to any schedule filed with the commission and proposing any change or changes in any new rate, joint rate, fare, rental, toll, classification, charge, rule, regulation or form of contract or agreement affecting the transportation of freight.'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

Effective February 24, 1949

Chapter 17

AN ACT Relating to Caboose-cars Used by Railroads.

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

R. S., c. 42, § 72, amended. The last sentence of section 72 of chapter 42 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Caboose-cars shall be of standard height, with a cupola, or with an observation compartment extending from each side of the car, and with necessary closets and windows.'

Effective August 6, 1949

Chapter 18

AN ACT to Relieve Towns of Maintenance of State and State Aid Highways and to Provide for Construction of State Aid Highways.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, it is essential to the welfare of the several towns that they be aided by the elimination of providing funds for their share of maintenance of state aid highways and that additional funds be provided for the construction of state aid highways; and

Whereas, the towns hold their annual town meetings in March; and

Whereas, it is essential that the towns shall have knowledge of the amount to be raised for maintenance of state and state aid roads; and

Whereas, it is essential that the towns shall have knowledge of the amount to be raised for construction of state aid highways; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 20, § 29, amended. The 1st sentence of section 29 of chapter 20 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'If any town shall in any single year increase its appropriation for state aid roads to an amount not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 times the maximum amount which it may annually appropriate under the provisions of section 25, the commission may, from any balance of said fund for state aid construction, after the appropriations contemplated in section 27 and subject to the provisions of section 30 as to apportionment, appropriate a like increase of state aid; such appropriation shall not deprive the town of its right to the regular annual state aid in other years; the appropriations contemplated by this sec-