

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

## Ninety-seventh Legislature

OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE

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OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Ninety-seventh Legislature

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seating capacity of more than 7 passengers shall be driven or operated at a rate of speed in excess of 45 miles per hour, **except on a highway posted for a higher rate of speed.** No person shall operate any motor driven cycle at any time mentioned in section 136 at a speed greater than 35 miles per hour unless such motor driven cycle is equipped with a headlamp or lamps which are adequate to reveal a person or vehicle at a distance of 300 feet ahead.'

Effective August 20, 1955

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## Chapter 126

### AN ACT Relating to Maine Sardine Tax Committee and Suspending Sardine Tax on Certain Cases of Sardines.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 16, § 262, amended. Section 262 of chapter 16 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 262. Excise tax on sardines. The packing of sardines is declared to constitute the introduction of sardines into the channels of trade.

An excise tax of 25c per case, as defined in subsections I, II and III of section 261, is levied and imposed upon the privilege of packing sardines; provided, however, that if on April 1st of any year there shall remain unexpended in the hands of the Treasurer of State from excise taxes collected under the provisions of sections 260 to 269, inclusive, the sum of \$500,000, then such excise tax shall not be levied and imposed upon the privilege of packing sardines during the 12 months following such April 1st.

The tax provided by this section shall be suspended on all cases of sardines described in subsection III of section 261 packed between January 1, 1955 and January 1, 1957.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 16, § 264, amended. The 1st sentence of section 264 of chapter 16 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Every packer shall keep as a part of his permanent records, a record of all sardines packed, which said records shall be open for inspection at all times as hereinafter provided, and every packer shall on or before the 10th day of each month render a report to the State Tax Assessor, stating the quantity of sardines packed by him during the preceding calendar month, on forms to be furnished by said State Tax Assessor, and at the same time shall pay to the State Tax Assessor the tax of 25c per case on all sardines so reported as packed, **except that the tax on items described in subsection III of section 261 shall be suspended on all such items packed between January 1, 1955 and January 1, 1957.**

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 16, § 268, amended. The 2nd sentence of section 268 of chapter 16 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

~~The~~ Four members of said Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business and the carrying out of the duties of the Committee.'

Sec. 4. Effective date; refunds. The provisions of sections 1 and 2 of this

act shall be retroactive to January 1, 1955. The State Tax Assessor is hereby authorized and directed to make such refunds as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of said sections.

Effective August 20, 1955

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## Chapter 127

### AN ACT Regulating Natural Gas Pipe Lines.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 44, § 16, sub-§ XII, amended. Subsection XII of section 16 of chapter 44 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'XII. "Public utility" includes every common carrier, gas company, natural gas pipe line company, electrical company, telephone company, telegraph company, water company, public heating company, wharfinger and warehouseman, as those terms are defined in this section, and each thereof is declared to be a public utility and to be subject to the jurisdiction, control and regulation of the Commission, and to the provisions of this chapter.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 44, § 16, sub-§ IX-A, additional. Section 16 of chapter 44 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new subsection to be numbered IX-A, to read as follows:

'IX-A. "Natural gas pipe line company" includes every corporation or person, their lessees, trustees, receivers or trustees appointed by any court whatsoever, owning or operating for compensation within this State any pipe line, including pumping stations, storage depots and other facilities, for the transportation, distribution or sale of natural gas.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 50-A, additional. The revised statutes are hereby amended by adding thereto a new chapter to be numbered 50-A, to read as follows:

### 'CHAPTER 50-A.

#### Natural Gas Pipe Line Companies.

Sec. 1. Declaration of policy. It is hereby declared that the business of transporting natural gas within the State by interstate or intrastate natural gas pipe line companies is affected with the public interest and that the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the State require regulation in matters relating to the transportation of natural gas to the extent hereinafter provided.

Sec. 2. Power to construct and operate natural gas pipe line. Any corporation organized under the laws of this State or of any other State or of the United States for the purpose of constructing and operating a natural gas pipe line, which corporation holds a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under the provisions of the Federal Natural Gas Act approved June 21, 1938, as it now reads, or may hereafter be amended, authorizing such corporation to construct and operate a natural gas pipe line or pipe lines and appurtenant facilities within this State, is hereby authorized, upon compliance with all applicable provisions of this chapter, to purchase, hold and convey such real estate and personal property as shall be necessary for the purposes for which it was created.