

**BRIDGES AND CULVERTS (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 354 of 1925**

INTER-MUNICIPAL BRIDGES.

**254.6 Inter-township, bridge; construction, repair, expense, joint action.**

Sec. 6. Whenever the commissioners of highways and township boards of any 2 adjoining townships in either the same or different counties shall determine that a bridge on or across the township line over any stream or sink-hole, either crossing or running along the boundary line between such townships, should be constructed, rebuilt or repaired, such bridge shall be constructed, rebuilt or repaired and maintained at the joint expense of such townships. The commissioners of the townships interested, either of whom may give notice to the other of meetings of said commissioners for the purposes herein mentioned, shall jointly agree on the plans and specifications for such bridge, subject to the approval of an engineer assigned to the job by the state highway commissioner in case the structure shall cost more than 2,500 dollars, and upon the proportion of the cost thereof that each such township shall bear.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4527;—CL 1948, 254.6.

**Former law:** See section 9 of Ch. 8 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4423.

**254.7 Repealed. 1958, Act 77, Eff. Sept. 13, 1958.**

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section provided for township disbursements for bridge construction and maintenance.

**254.8 Townships and commissioners construed; authority to contract.**

Sec. 8. The word “townships”, as used in the 2 last preceding sections, shall be deemed to include cities and incorporated villages, both in their relation to each other and to townships, and when the word commissioner is used with reference to townships, it shall be deemed to include the corporate authorities of cities and incorporated villages. And such commissioners or corporate authorities may make such equitable contracts with the corresponding authorities as will secure the construction, rebuilding or repairing and maintenance of such bridges as they may deem advisable.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4529;—CL 1948, 254.8.

**Former law:** See section 11 of Ch. 8 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4425.

**254.9 Failure to join; petition to state commissioner.**

Sec. 9. Whenever any such township, city or incorporated village shall fail upon request to join in building, rebuilding, or repairing such bridge or to contribute its just share thereto, any such township, city or village desiring the building, rebuilding or repairing of such bridge may, by its township board or legislative body, as the case may be, by petition in the form of a resolution or otherwise, apply to the state highway commissioner for an order for the construction, rebuilding or repairing of such bridge and for determining the respective proportions which each township, city and village shall contribute for the construction, rebuilding or repairing of such bridge and for keeping the same in repair, as well as for deciding the kind of bridge or road to be constructed.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4530;—CL 1948, 254.9.

**Former law:** See section 27 of Ch. 8 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4441.

**254.10 Failure to join; hearing, notice.**

Sec. 10. Upon receipt of such petition, the state highway commissioner shall set a day for hearing, which shall be not less than 10 nor more than 20 days thereafter, and shall give notice thereof to each township, city and village interested or to be affected by registered letter addressed to the clerk of each such township, city and village and mailed at least 7 days before said day of hearing. The hearing shall be held at some convenient place in the county in which it is proposed to construct, rebuild or repair such bridge.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4531;—CL 1948, 254.10.

**Former law:** See section 28 of Ch. 8 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4442.

**254.11 Failure to join; commissioner, duties; approval of supervisors of navigable rivers.**

Sec. 11. The commissioner may adjourn the hearing from time to time in his discretion. He shall hear the parties and may make such independent investigation as he may deem desirable, and shall either grant or refuse the prayer of the petition. If he shall grant the same, he shall designate the kind of bridge to be built, and shall cause to be prepared the plans and specifications therefor: Provided, That if the same be on a navigable stream the approval of the board of supervisors of the proper county shall be secured before any

construction work shall be done.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4532;—CL 1948, 254.11.

**Former law:** See section 29 of Ch. 8 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4443.

#### **254.12 Failure to join; determination of quota, alteration.**

Sec. 12. The state highway commissioner shall also determine the quota or proportion which each township, city and village named shall contribute thereto, and whether the whole amount shall be raised the first year, or only a part, and, if only a part, what part the first and what part the second year, but no part of it shall be deferred more than 2 years. He shall also determine the quota of each towards keeping the same in repair, which shall remain the same till altered by him, or by the consent of each township, city and village, which is a party to such proceedings.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4533;—CL 1948, 254.12.

**Former law:** See section 29 of Ch. 8 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4443.

#### **254.13 Failure to join; copy of determination, filing; tax levy.**

Sec. 13. A copy of the determination of the state highway commissioner shall be filed with the clerk of each township, city and village affected, and thereupon such bridge shall be constructed, rebuilt, repaired and maintained in accordance therewith. Each such township, city and village shall cause to be levied and assessed upon the taxable property therein an amount sufficient to pay for its quota of costs as above determined, which shall be disbursed by the treasurers of the respective townships, cities and villages in the manner provided in section 7 hereof.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4534;—CL 1948, 254.13.

**Former law:** See section 30 of Ch. 8 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4444.

#### **254.14 Inter-county bridge; failure of boards of commissioners to agree on apportionment, petition to state commissioner.**

Sec. 14. Whenever the boards of county road commissioners of adjoining counties are unable to agree on the apportionment of the costs of constructing, rebuilding, repairing or maintaining an inter-county bridge on a county road, either of such boards may petition the state highway commissioner to decide the issues upon which they have been unable to agree, and thereupon the state highway commissioner shall proceed and may make such orders and determinations in the matter as is herein above provided in case of a similar petition by a township, city or village.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—CL 1929, 4535;—CL 1948, 254.14.

#### **254.15 Interstate bridge; commissioners' authority to contract; supervisors, fund raising, special tax, limitation.**

Sec. 15. The board of county road commissioners of any county bordering on a stream which is the boundary line between such county and a county in another state, is hereby authorized, in conjunction with the proper highway authorities of such adjoining county or state, to construct, rebuild, repair and maintain a bridge, or bridges, across such stream at such place or places within the limits of such boundary as may be agreed upon by said board of county road commissioners and highway authorities, whenever said board of county road commissioners shall deem it necessary, and to enter into a contract with the proper highway authorities of such adjoining county or state relative thereto: Provided, however, That the board of supervisors of such county shall provide by resolution for the raising of funds to pay for the construction, rebuilding, repairing or maintaining of such bridge, or bridges, and for such purposes the board of supervisors of such county may levy a special tax not to exceed 1 mill on the assessed valuation of all the property of such county for such part of the cost of constructing, rebuilding, repairing or maintaining of such bridge, or bridges, as shall be allotted to such county; and such board of supervisors is hereby authorized, at any regular or special meeting of such board, to borrow on the faith and credit of such county, such sums of money as may be needed to carry out the purposes aforesaid, not exceeding the amount specified in this act, and to levy such amount to be collected with the next ensuing assessment.

**History:** 1925, Act 354, Imd. Eff. May 27, 1925;—Am. 1927, Act 81, Imd. Eff. Apr. 25, 1927;—CL 1929, 4536;—CL 1948, 254.15.

**Former law:** See section 10 of Ch. 16 of Act 283 of 1909, being CL 1915, § 4527.

#### **254.16 Repealed. 1958, Act 77, Eff. Sept. 13, 1958.**

**Compiler's note:** The repealed section authorized state highway commissioner to enter into contracts for construction and maintenance of bridges on nontrunkline roads.