

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO REGULATE RATES OF RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION WITHIN THIS STATE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. That no railroad corporation operating its line of road in this State shall, without the written approval of the Board of Railroad Commissioners demand or receive from any person, company, or corporation, for the transportation of property, or for any other service, a greater sum than it shall while operating under the classification and schedule then in force, charge, demand or receive from any other person, company or corporation for a like service from the same place in the State of Iowa to another place in such State, or upon like conditions and under similar circumstances, and all concessions of rates, drawbacks, and contracts for special rates shall be open to and allowed all persons, companies, and corporations alike at the same rate per ton per mile upon like conditions and under similar circumstances, except in special cases designed to promote the development of the resources of this State when the approval of the Board of Railroad Commissioners shall be obtained in writing. But nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prevent such Board of Railroad Commissioners from making a lower rate per ton per mile on car-load lots than shall govern shipments in less quantities than car-load lots, except in cases otherwise provided for in this section.

SEC. 2. Any agent, officer or employe of any railroad company violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and if convicted thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, but before any prosecution under the first and second sections of this act shall be commenced the party aggrieved by such act of such agent, officer, or employe of such railroad company shall make a full and complete statement of such grievance to such Board of Railroad Commissioners, and such Board of Railroad Commissioners shall require such agent, officer, employe and railroad company to amply and fully redress such injury as the circumstances may require; and in case of such refusal of redress then such Board of Railroad Commissioners shall cause such prosecution to be commenced and conducted to final judgment.

SEC. 3. If any railroad company operating its line of road in this State shall violate any of the provisions of the first section of this act, and complained of, the same shall be made in writing to the Board of Railroad Commissioners such Board of Railroad Commissioners of the exact character of such violation of such section, whereupon such Board of Railroad

5 Commissioners shall, in writing, demand of such railroad company that any money ob-
6 tained by such company from the person, company, or corporation making such complaint
7 shall be repaid to such party injured by such violation of such section; and if such railroad
8 company after such reasonable notice, refuse to refund or repay such sums of money, then
9 such Board of Railroad Commissioners shall proceed to bring suit in any county in this
10 State, in the name of the State of Iowa for the use of the party injured, an action at law
11 for the recovery of a sum three times in amount to that received by such railroad company
12 in violation of such section one of this act, and the costs of such suit, and the Attorney-
13 General of this State, or any county attorney, in any county in this State, shall commence
14 such action, and conduct the same to final judgment and execution, as the said Board of
15 Railroad Commissioners may direct.