

tion, violating any of the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dollars.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 1, 1913.

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No. 344, A.]

[Published May 3, 1913.]

## CHAPTER 159.

AN ACT to create section 1388b of the statutes, relating to construction of ditches where railroads or public highways obstruct the natural drainage of surface water.

*The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes a new section to read: Section 1388b. 1. Whenever any town, city, village or railway company shall have heretofore constructed and now maintains or hereafter shall construct and maintain any public highway or road grade through, over and across any marsh, lowland or other natural depression over or through which surface water naturally flows and percolates, and the stopping of the said flow and percolation of said water by said highway or road grade causes any crop or land to be flooded, water-soaked or otherwise damaged, such town, city, village or railway company shall construct, provide and at all times maintain a sufficient ditch or ditches, culverts or other outlets to allow the free and unobstructed flow and percolation of said water from said lands, and to prevent said lands from becoming flooded, water-soaked or otherwise damaged by said water. Provided, however, that the foregoing shall not apply to public highways or road grades now or hereafter used to hold and retain water for cranberry purposes.

2. Any town, city, village or railway company which shall fail to provide such necessary ditches or culverts or other outlets shall be liable for all damages caused by reason of such failure or neglect.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 1, 1913.