AN ACT

Authorizing the directing the Department of Highways, with the approval of the Governor, to erect and maintain a toll bridge over the Ohio River, in Beaver County, between a point in or near the Borough of Shippingport to a point in or near the Borough of Midland on the opposite side of the Ohio River; and to provide the necessary approaches and connections with State highways; empowering counties to pay certain damages.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. The Department of Highways, with the approval of the Governor, is hereby authorized and directed to erect and construct a bridge over the Ohio River, in Beaver County, between a point in or near the Borough of Shippingport to a point in or near the Borough of Midland on the opposite side of the Ohio River and to acquire the necessary land for approaches thereto.

Upon completion of the bridge, the Department of Highways shall operate and maintain the same as a toll bridge and shall charge and collect tolls at reasonable rates determined by it, until the cost of the bridge, and of operating and maintaining it, have been paid.

Section 2. In the construction of said bridge and the approaches thereto and connections with existing State highways, the Department of Highways shall have all of the powers and authority conferred with respect to the relocation, widening or construction of State highways, including the exercise of the power of eminent domain. Any damages sustained by reason of taking property in the location, widening or construction of any such bridge, the approaches thereto and connections with State highways, shall be ascertained in accordance with laws applicable to the ascertainment of damages in relocating, widening or constructing State highways and such damages, when ascertained, shall be paid by the Commonwealth or county or counties as may be agreed upon in accordance with the laws relating to State highways.

The Department of Highways shall have authority to make and carry out, and to do every other act necessary to carry out, the project herein authorized.

Section 3. After the cost of construction of such bridge and the approaches thereto has been paid, the collection of tolls shall cease and the bridge and its approaches shall be maintained by the Department of Highways in accordance with present or future laws governing the reconstruction and maintenance of State highways.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.