An Act to Include a Tribal Member in the Baxter State Park Authority

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

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

Sec. 1.  12 MRSA §901, first ¶, as amended by PL 1989, c. 503, Pt. B, §56; PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §7; and PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. A, §23, is further amended to read:

All the lands in Townships 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Range 9 W.E.L.S. and in Townships 3, 4, 5 and 6, Range 10 W.E.L.S., Piscataquis County, and Township 6, Range 8 W.E.L.S., Penobscot County, that have been donated and conveyed to the State in trust by Percival Proctor Baxter and all lands in the Townships 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Range 9 and in Townships 3, 4, 5 and 6, Range 10, and in Township 6, Range 8 and all lands in Piscataquis and Penobscot Counties that hereafter shall be donated and conveyed to the State by Percival Proctor Baxter in trust for state forest, public park and public recreational purposes are named and shall be hereafter named "Baxter State Park" in honor of the donor, and the same hereafter shall must forever be so designated on the official maps and records of the State. They shall be under the joint supervision and control of, and shall must be administered by the Director of the Bureau of Forestry, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and, the Attorney General and one member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State, and the commissioner, director and, Attorney General shall and member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State have full power in the control and management of the same, under the title of Baxter State Park Authority, as authorized by Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 11. The Governor shall select the member who is a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State based on the joint recommendation of the tribal governments of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the Penobscot Nation. If the tribal governments do not make a unanimous joint recommendation, the Governor shall appoint a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State and rotate the appointment among members of each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State. The member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State serves a 4-year term. The authority shall receive money available from trust funds established by the donor of the park and shall include fees collected, income from park trust funds invested by the Treasurer of State and other miscellaneous income derived from the park for maintenance and operation of the park.

SUMMARY

This bill adds one member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in this State to the Baxter State Park Authority, which has full power in the control and management of Baxter State Park.