



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 294

H.P. 192

House of Representatives, January 27, 2023

**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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and
Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, DRINKWATER of
Milford, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland,
WOODSOME of Waterboro, Senators: HICKMAN of Kennebec, MOORE of Washington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §901, first ¶**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 503, Pt. B, §56; PL
3 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §7; and PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. A, §23, is further amended to read:

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

33 **SUMMARY**

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