An Act To Extend Time Limits for Placing Land in Trust Status
under the Maine Indian Claims Settlement

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 19, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Presented by Representative WOOD of Portland.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 30 MRSA §6205, sub-$1, as amended by PL 2013, c. 91, §§1 and 2 and affected by §3, is further amended to read:

1. Passamaquoddy Indian territory. Subject to subsections 3, 4 and 5, the following lands within the State are known as the "Passamaquoddy Indian territory:"

A. The Passamaquoddy Indian Reservation;

B. The first 150,000 acres of land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe from the following areas or lands to the extent that those lands are acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 1994 2030, are not held in common with any other person or entity and are certified by the secretary by January 31, 1994 2030, as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe:


C. Any land not exceeding 100 acres in the City of Calais acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe as long as the land is acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 2001 2030, is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary by January 31, 2001 2030, as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, if:

(1) The acquisition of the land by the tribe is approved by the legislative body of that city; and

(2) A tribal-state compact under the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act is agreed to by the State and the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the State is ordered by a court to negotiate such a compact;

D. All land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in T.19, M.D. to the extent that the land is acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 2020 2030, is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by
the secretary by January 31, 2020 as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe;

D-1. Land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Centerville consisting of Parcels A, B and C conveyed by Bertram C. Tackeff to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by quitclaim deed dated July 27, 1981, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 1147, Page 251, to the extent that the land is acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 2017, is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary by January 31, 2017 as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe;

D-2. Land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Centerville conveyed by Bertram C. Tackeff to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by quitclaim deed dated May 4, 1982, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 1178, Page 35, to the extent that the land is acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 2023, is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary by January 31, 2023 as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe; and

E. Land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Township 21 consisting of Gordon Island in Big Lake, conveyed by Domtar Maine Corporation to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by corporate quitclaim deed dated April 30, 2002, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 2624, Page 301, to the extent that the land is acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 2017, is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary by January 31, 2017 as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA §6205, sub-§2, ¶B, as amended by PL 1999, c. 625, §1, is further amended to read:

B. The first 150,000 acres of land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Penobscot Nation from the following areas or lands to the extent that those lands are acquired by the secretary prior to January 31, 2021, are not held in common with any other person or entity and are certified by the secretary by January 31, 2021, as held for the benefit of the Penobscot Nation:

in Old Town mutually agreed upon by the City of Old Town and the Penobscot Nation
Tribal Government, provided that the mutual agreement must be finalized prior to
August January 31, 1991 2030; any lands in Lakeville acquired by the Penobscot
Nation before January 31, 1991 2030; and all the property acquired by the Penobscot
Indian Nation from Herbert C. Haynes, Jr., Herbert C. Haynes, Inc. and Five Islands
Land Corporation located in Township 1, Range 6 W.E.L.S.

Sec. 3. Effective date; certification. This Act does not take effect unless, within
60 days of the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature, the
Secretary of State receives written certification by the Tribal Chief and Council of the
Penobscot Nation and the Joint Tribal Council of the Passamaquoddy Tribe that the nation
and tribe have agreed to the provisions of this Act pursuant to 25 United States Code,
Section 1725(e), copies of which must be submitted by the Secretary of State to the
Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Revisor of
Statutes; except that in no event may this Act become effective until 90 days after the
adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

SUMMARY

This bill extends all time limits for both the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot
Nation to add to their respective trust lands under the Act to Implement the Maine Indian
Claims Settlement to January 31, 2030.

Because this bill amends the Act to Implement the Maine Indian Claims Settlement,
this bill does not take effect unless the Joint Tribal Council of the Passamaquoddy Tribe
and the Tribal Chief and Council of the Penobscot Nation agree to these changes and certify
their agreement to the Secretary of State within 60 days of the adjournment of the First
Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.