

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

‘**Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §1637** is enacted to read:

**§ 1637. False claims of membership in federally recognized tribe in the State**

**1. Prohibition.** A person may not:

A. Knowingly claim falsely to be a member of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the Penobscot Nation;

B. Have the intent to obtain property to which the person is not entitled by making the claim under paragraph A; and

C. Obtain property to which the person is not entitled by making the claim under paragraph A.

**2. Penalty.** A person that violates subsection 1 commits a civil violation for which a fine of not more than \$2,500 may be adjudged.

**3. Definition.** For purposes of this section, "property" has the same meaning as set forth in Title 17-A, section 352, subsection 1.’

**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the bill. It establishes a civil violation with a maximum fine of \$2,500 for a person who falsely claims to be a member of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the Penobscot Nation, which are federally recognized, with the intent to obtain property to which the person is not entitled and, because of the false claim, does obtain property. This amendment provides that "property" has the same definition as provided in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 352, subsection 1.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**