

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

## **An Act To Reserve Ten Percent of Campsites at State Parks for Maine Residents**

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §1827, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 678, §13, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**1. Reservation system for overnight camping.** The director shall establish a statewide reservation system for overnight camping at state parks with overnight camping facilities that incorporates a deposit system and a mechanism for accepting payments by credit card. Beginning with the 2014 camping season, the reservation system established under this subsection must reserve 10% of campsites available at each state park for use by residents of the State. Reservations made by state residents may be made up to 4 months in advance of each camping season and must be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For the purposes of this subsection, "resident" means a citizen of the United States, or an alien who has been domiciled in the State for one year, who:

- A. If registered to vote, is registered to vote in this State;
- B. If licensed to drive a motor vehicle, has made application for or possesses a motor vehicle operator's license issued by the State;
- C. If owning a motor vehicle located within the State, has registered the motor vehicle in the State; and
- D. Is in compliance with the state income tax laws.

Baxter State Park, the Allagash Wilderness Waterway and public reserved and nonreserved lands are excluded from this system.

**Sec. 2. Report.** The Director of the Division of Parks and Public Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry on the implementation of the resident set-aside within the overnight camping reservation system established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 1827 no later than January 2, 2014.

### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Director of the Division of Parks and Public Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to amend the current statewide reservation system for overnight camping at state parks with overnight camping facilities to set aside 10% of campsites for use by Maine residents. These reservations must be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and may be made up to 4 months in advance of each camping season. The bill also includes a definition of "resident."