



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 574

H.P. 398

House of Representatives, February 26, 2015

**An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Membership of the
Maine Commission on Domestic and Sexual Abuse**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BEAR of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, CHAPMAN
of Brooksville, MELARAGNO of Auburn.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §4013, sub-§1, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2009, c. 257, §1, is
3 further amended to read:

4 A. The Governor shall name the chair from among the following members:

5 (1) Two members, appointed by the Governor, who are representatives of the
6 statewide coalition of domestic violence projects;

7 (1-A) Two members, appointed by the Governor, who are representatives of the
8 statewide coalition of sexual assault centers;

9 (2) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is a representative of the
10 mental health profession;

11 (3) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is a representative of victims
12 of domestic violence;

13 (3-A) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is a representative of
14 victims of sexual assault;

15 (4) Two members, appointed by the Governor, one of whom has experience
16 representing victims of domestic abuse, who are attorneys with experience in
17 domestic relations cases;

18 (5) One member, appointed by the Governor, who was a victim of domestic
19 abuse and used the court system;

20 (5-A) One member, appointed by the Governor, who was a victim of sexual
21 assault and used the court system;

22 (6) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is a district attorney or
23 assistant district attorney;

24 (7) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is chief of a municipal police
25 department;

26 (8) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is a county sheriff or the
27 sheriff's designee;

28 (8-A) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is the statewide coordinator
29 of a statewide coalition to end domestic violence;

30 (8-B) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is the executive director of
31 a statewide coalition against sexual assault;

32 (8-C) The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;

33 (8-D) The Chief of the Maine State Police or the chief's designee;

34 (9) The Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee;

35 (9-A) The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's
36 designee;

37 (9-C) The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee;

- 1 (9-D) The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee;
- 2 (9-E) The Commissioner of Corrections or the commissioner's designee;
- 3 (9-F) One member, appointed by the Governor, who has experience working in
- 4 batterers' intervention programs;
- 5 (10) Up to ~~6~~ 5 members-at-large, appointed by the Governor;
- 6 (11) Up to 4 members, appointed by the Governor, representing underserved
- 7 populations; ~~and~~
- 8 (12) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is a tribal member and
- 9 provides services through a tribal program to tribal members who are victims of
- 10 domestic or sexual violence.; and
- 11 (13) One member, appointed by the Governor, who is an executive director of a
- 12 tribal coalition against sexual assault and domestic violence.

13 **Sec. 2. Transition.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 19-A,
14 section 4013, subsection 1, paragraph A, the members of the Maine Commission on
15 Domestic and Sexual Abuse serving immediately prior to the effective date of this Act
16 continue to serve as members of the commission for the terms for which they were
17 appointed until the Governor appoints their successors.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill allows the designee of a county sheriff appointed to the Maine Commission
20 on Domestic and Sexual Abuse to serve on the commission and replaces one at-large
21 member with the executive director of a tribal coalition against sexual assault and
22 domestic violence. The current at-large member will serve until the expiration of that
23 member's term.