



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 1455

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H.P. 1067

House of Representatives, April 2, 2019

**An Act To Change the Name of Township 17, Range 3 to Van Buren  
Cove**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MARTIN of Sinclair.  
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook.

1           **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3           **Whereas,** this legislation proposes a referendum to ratify changing the name of the  
4 unorganized territory referred to currently as Township 17, Range 3, WELS, and located  
5 in Aroostook County to Van Buren Cove, and requires the referendum to be held no later  
6 than 6 months after adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature;  
7 and

8           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
11 therefore,

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

13           **Sec. 1. Van Buren Cove.** Wherever the designation Township 17, Range 3,  
14 WELS, appears or reference is made to that unorganized territory, that designation or  
15 reference means Van Buren Cove.

16           **Sec. 2. Referendum for ratification.** This Act must be submitted to the legal  
17 voters residing in the unorganized territory of Township 17, Range 3, WELS, in  
18 Aroostook County. The date of the submission must be determined by the Aroostook  
19 County Board of Commissioners but may not be later than 6 months after adjournment of  
20 the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. The Aroostook County commissioners  
21 are authorized to expend such funds as necessary to implement the referendum.

22           The county commissioners shall cause the preparation of the required ballots, on  
23 which they shall state the subject matter of this Act in the following question:

24                        "Do you favor changing the name of Township 17, Range 3, WELS, to  
25                        Van Buren Cove?"

26           The voters shall indicate by a cross or a check mark placed against the word "Yes" or  
27 "No" their opinion of the question.

28           The result of the election must be declared by the Aroostook County commissioners  
29 and due certificate filed with the Secretary of State.

30           **Sec. 3. Emergency clause; effective date.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
31 preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved only for the purpose of submitting it  
32 to the legal voters residing in the unorganized territory of Township 17, Range 3, WELS,  
33 in Aroostook County no later than 6 months after adjournment of the First Regular  
34 Session of the 129th Legislature. The name change in section 1 of this Act takes effect  
35 immediately upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters voting at the election  
36 held pursuant to section 2.

**SUMMARY**

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This bill authorizes the Aroostook County Board of Commissioners to seek approval from the residents of Township 17, Range 3, WELS, to rename the township to Van Buren Cove.