



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1679

H.P. 1078

House of Representatives, April 18, 2023

An Act Regarding the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, CARMICHAEL of Greenbush, LEE of Auburn,
MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MOONEN of Portland, MORIARTY of Cumberland, SHEEHAN
of Biddeford, Senator: HARRINGTON of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 30 MRSA §6212, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 384, Pt. F, §3 and
3 affected by §4, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

4 Nine members constitute a quorum of the commission and a decision or action of the
5 commission is not valid unless 7 members vote in favor of the action or decision. During a
6 period when any vacancy exists in appointed members, the required quorum is reduced by
7 the number of vacancies, with no fewer than 7 members required. During such a period, a
8 decision or action of the commission is not valid unless 7 members vote in favor of the
9 action or decision.

10 **Sec. 2. Staggered terms.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30,
11 section 6212, subsection 1, beginning with those appointments to the Maine Indian
12 Tribal-State Commission made after the effective date of this Act, the Governor shall
13 appoint 2 members for a term of one year, 2 members for a term of 2 years and 2 members
14 for a term of 3 years.

15 **Sec. 3. Contingent effective date.** This Act takes effect 120 days after
16 adjournment of the First Special Session of the 131st Legislature only if, within 90 days
17 after adjournment of the First Special Session of the 131st Legislature, the Secretary of
18 State receives written certification from the Joint Tribal Council of the Passamaquoddy
19 Tribe that the tribe has agreed to the provisions of this Act; from the Governor and the
20 Council of the Penobscot Nation that the nation has agreed to the provisions of this Act;
21 and from the Houlton Band Council of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians that the band
22 has agreed to the provisions of this Act, copies of which must be submitted by the Secretary
23 of State to the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House and the Revisor of Statutes.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill provides staggered terms for members of the Maine Indian Tribal-State
26 Commission appointed by the Governor. It also reduces the quorum for the commission
27 when there are vacancies.