

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

—
H.P. 1444 - L.D. 1934

**Resolve, Changing the Identifying and Reporting Responsibilities and
Extending the Reporting Deadline for the Identification of Places in the State
with Offensive Names**

Sec. 1. Resolve 2021, c. 98, §1, amended. Resolved: That Resolve 2021, c. 98, §1 is amended to read:

Sec. 1. Identification of offensive names for geographic features and other places. Resolved: That the ~~Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations shall work jointly with the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations, jointly referred to in this resolve as "the department and commission,"~~ to review state law regarding offensive place names. The ~~department and commission~~ shall:

1. Review the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 1101 to determine and suggest any additional words to be included in the current definition of offensive name;
2. Establish a uniform process for renaming geographic features and other places that have offensive names; ~~and~~
3. Explore the most effective methods of identifying the individuals, entities and institutions in the State that profited or benefited in any manner from the global economy of enslavement; ~~and~~
4. Create the Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names within the commission, and appoint members to the advisory committee, in order to accelerate the process by which offensive place names in the State are identified and replaced. This subsection governs the creation and activities of the advisory committee.
 - A. The commission may determine the number of members that will serve on the advisory committee.
 - B. The commission may determine the expertise of the members appointed to serve on the advisory committee, which may include representation from indigenous and tribal populations; members of the African American community; people with a deep knowledge of civil rights, anthropology or history; representatives of the Department

of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Office of the Attorney General or Maine Human Rights Commission; and members of the public.

C. The advisory committee shall consult with local community representatives, municipalities, historically impacted populations, state, federal and local governments and the public in order to broadly solicit, review and recommend to the commission changes that will facilitate the proactive and systematic development and review of name-change proposals.

D. The advisory committee shall establish a process to solicit and assist with proposals to the United States Board on Geographic Names to change offensive place names.

It is the intent of this resolve that the ~~department and commission~~ Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations carry out ~~their~~ its responsibilities within the existing resources of the ~~department and~~ commission. The ~~department and~~ commission may solicit, accept and expend funds to cover any expenses that are in excess of existing resources.

By December 1, ~~2021~~ 2022, the ~~Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry~~ Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations shall submit a report pursuant to this section, including any suggested legislation, to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters. The joint standing committee may submit a bill related to the report to the ~~Second First~~ First Regular Session of the ~~130th~~ 131st Legislature.