

Title 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS
Chapter 27: NAMES OF PLACES

Table of Contents

Section 1101. DEFINITIONS..... 3
Section 1102. OFFENSIVE NAMES PROHIBITED..... 3
Section 1103. COMPLAINT FILED..... 3
**Section 1104. RESPONSIBILITY OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS..... 4**

Maine Revised Statutes
Title 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS
Chapter 27: NAMES OF PLACES

§1101. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following words shall have the following meanings: [1979, c. 541, Pt. A, §5 (AMD).]

1. Offensive name. "Offensive name" means a name of a place that includes:

A. The designation "nigger" or "squaw" or any derivation of "squaw" as a separate word or as part of a word or phrase; or [2009, c. 284, §1 (AMD).]

B. The designation "squa" or any derivation of "squa" as a separate word or as a separate syllable in a word. [2009, c. 284, §1 (AMD).]

[2009, c. 284, §1 (AMD).]

2. Place. "Place" means any natural geographic feature or any street, alley or other road within the jurisdiction of the State, or any political subdivision of the State.

[1977, c. 259, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 259, §1 (NEW). 1979, c. 127, §1 (AMD). 1979, c. 541, §A5 (AMD). 1999, c. 613, §1 (AMD). 2001, c. 471, §D3 (AMD). 2009, c. 284, §1 (AMD).

§1102. OFFENSIVE NAMES PROHIBITED

1. Place in State may not have offensive name. A place in this State may not have or be given an offensive name.

[2001, c. 244, §1 (NEW).]

2. Sign on interstate highway or Maine Turnpike may not contain offensive name. A sign placed by the State on an interstate highway or the Maine Turnpike may not contain an offensive name.

[2001, c. 244, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 259, §1 (NEW). 2001, c. 244, §1 (RPR).

§1103. COMPLAINT FILED

Any person who believes that a place has an offensive name may file a complaint with the Maine Human Rights Commission. Any such complaint filed with this commission shall be subject to the provisions included in Title 5, section 4632. [1977, c. 259, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 259, §1 (NEW).

§1104. RESPONSIBILITY OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The municipal officers of the municipality or the county commissioners responsible for the unorganized territory, in which a place is found pursuant to Title 5, section 4632, to have an offensive name, shall have the following responsibilities: [1977, c. 259, §1 (NEW).]

1. Reasonable actions. They shall take whatever reasonable actions are required to complete a change in the offensive name. They may hold public hearings on selecting a new name; and

[1999, c. 613, §2 (AMD) .]

2. Notification. Unless a court order is issued under Title 5, section 4632 specifying a different deadline, within 6 months of the determination that the place has an offensive name, they shall provide notice of the new name to the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior and other public agencies, boards, committees or other groups responsible for changing names of places and for ensuring that such name changes appear on maps and other public documents.

[1999, c. 613, §2 (AMD); 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §6 (REV) .]

SECTION HISTORY

1977, c. 259, §1 (NEW). 1999, c. 613, §2 (AMD). 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §6 (REV) .

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2016. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.
--